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**WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 1995** 

# Shrink the state, Patten urges

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

Chris Patten, Governor of Hong Kong, last night issued a startling warning that Britain needs radically to "shrink" the state, to compete with "booming" Asian economies where only 16 to 25 per cent of national income goes on public The former Conservative

chairman became the most authoritative figure on the onenation left of the Tory party to back a massive reduction in state spending as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product. The British percentage currently is 43 per cent. Mr Patten's conversion mirrors that of his friend, William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary, who earlier this month said the further that spending, as a percentage of national income, could be driven below 40, the better.

Some Tory MPs will see it as a sign of the reunification of left and right in the run-up to the general election, as it coincided with an endorsement by Douglas Hurd, former foreign secretary, of what is seen as the more Eurosceptic stance of his successor, Malcolm Rifkind.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, said last weekend in a



Chris Patten: Conversion

BBC interview that it was desirable to "work towards" ensuring that the state "really should never take more than 40 per cent of GDP". However, Mr Clarke also repeated his commitment to a "high quali-ty" health service, higher standards of education and the welfare state.

While insisting that he did not advocate a "slash-and-burn" approach to public spending, Mr Patten used a comparison with Hong Kong and other vibrant Asian economies to stress that "we shall only be able to restore the authority of states by shrinking what they do"

Mr Patten said he was not calling for the "crasser sort of

"that we need an ideologica assault on the public service Nor did he suggest in his speech to the Conservative Political Centre to what level expenditure should be cut. He added that the big European states were "muscle-bound but weak, ambitious but decided. To do

much better they must do less." Mr Patten's speech came as Mr Waldegrave warned the Tory backbench finance committee that tough spending cuts would be needed in the current

In Hong Kong, Mr Patten's intervention will be seen as the start of his re-entry into British politics, and of his detachment from local affairs. Nevertheless, much of Mr Patten's trip is devoted to Hong Kong affairs. In meetings with Mr Rifkind,

Michael Howard and Robin Cook, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, the governor is pressing his case for holders of Hong Kong British passports to be given rights of British residence. Mr Patten is especially pressing the case of 7,000 residents of Indian origin who could become stateless.

Mr Hurd went out of his way in a speech to the Conservative Group for Europe last night to dispel any notion that he was at

Eclipse puts Taj Mahal in the shade



# Tories uneasy over divorce Bill

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, will tomorrow attempt to head off growing Tory backbench unrest about divorce law reform.

With an estimated 100 Tory MPs prepared to vote against the changes, the Government is likely to offer a free vote. Labour support will guarantee its passage through the Commons.

A group of Tory backbenchers, led by John Patten, the former Secretary of State for

sition to the proposals, which down on the measure, although would allow couples to divorce Lord Mackins insisting that the after one year without having to prove that the marriage has ixretrievably broken down.

The Lord Chancellor is due to meet his party's MPs to settle backbench unrest about the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill, which rationalises civil remedies for domestic violence, but MPs said last night they intended to express their concern at the proposed divorce reform Bill.

Senior Conservative backbenchers said the Government Education, are building oppo- could still be forced to climb

Bill should be included in the Queen's Speech next month.

Mr Patten has called for the Government to "bury the Bill" before it buries the institution of marriage. Opponents, among them John Redwood, the leadership challenger, argue that the better ideas in the divorce White Paper could be enacted without abolishing the principle of fault in divorce. These elements include a requirement for the person seeking the divorce to at-

with a panel of professionals.

The Lord Chancellor has He said recently at the launch of the Catholic Marriage Care misation: "I want couples to talk to each other. I want them to be able to think through the consequences of divorce before

Chatham House speech deliv-

ered by the Foreign Secretary,

in which he said Britain should

not subordinate its own inter-

ests in order to maintain in-

ternational influence. Mr Hurd

urged "all Conservatives to sup-

port the European policy now

being carried forward by the

Prime Minister and the Foreign

But Mr Hurd's plea not to disrupt the "truce" inside the

party over Europe will also be

seen by pro-Europeans as a

warning to Cabinet right-

wingers who have launched a

fresh effort to persuade Mr

Major to rule out a single cur-

rency in the next Parliament.

Although Mr Major is un-

derstood to have listened sym-

pathetically to pleas from a

group of ministers, including Lord Cranborne, leader of the

Lords, for a manifesto com-

mitment not to join a single cur-

rency, Mr Clarke and Michael

Heseltine, the Deputy Prime

Minister, are thought still to be

resistant to any change in the

stance of neither ruling EMU

membership in or out. Mr

Clarke in the same weekend

television interview stressed his

enthusiastic support for the

Patten's speech, page 19

"policy we have all agreed".

The divorce Bill is likely to be introduced in the House of Lords. A number of Catholic MPs, including Mr Patten, are opposed to it, but the Catholic bishops have welcomed the attempt to minimise the damage sed by high divorce rates.

# Churches unite to attack 'damaging' lottery

RHYS WILLIAMS

Senior representatives of Britain's main churches attacked the National Lottery mantle those regulations. yesterday, accusing it of undermining public culture and In the first official cross-de-

nominational statement since the lottery was introduced last year, the Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland said that the public benefit served by proceeds from the weekly draw and scratch cards had failed to comcensate for the harm being done to the vulnerable and poorer sections of society.

After a meeting of its social responsibility representatives, the findings will be passed on to church leaders. The council said in a statement read by the

Rivers in danger

Scotland's rivers, a vital

natural resource for in-

dustries such as tourism,

fishing and whisky, are

being destroyed by pol-

lution and building de-

velopments, the World

Wide Fund for Nature

century has been the regulation of gambling. The National Lottery threatens recklessly to dis-

"The National Lottery's huge advertising budget, coupled with publicity in the media, has created a considerable likelihood of gambling harm with little prospect of public benefit.".

The lottery was undernining "the public culture", in which "money from taxation, charities working at national and local levels, central and local government have co-operated to sustain the common good".

The council called on the

Government to commission independent research on all aspects of the lottery and urged Parliament to establish a Gambling Research Council. It also Rt Rev David Sheppard, the demanded that no more li-Bishop of Liverpool: "One of cences for instant Game scratch the achievements of govern- cards be issued, that the mini-

mum age for playing the lottery be raised to 18, and the size of jackpots limited to around £1m. And on the day after more than 600 charities were awarded £40m of lottery cash, the coun-

cil also reminded people that

the most effective way of help-

ing charities was by donations. A Camelot spokesperson said last night: "It's disappointing that the Church is taking such a negative view of the National Lottery, which is enjoyed by 30 million players each week and has raised over a billion pounds for good causes to date. Parliament decided that the minimum age for playing the National Lottery should be 16, and we believe this is the right age. The minimum age for doing the Pools is also 16. We are

Winning quality, page 5

# **Prudential branches** into telephone banking

JOHN WILLCOCK

Prudential, the UK's largest insurer, yesterday declared war on all the high street banks and building societies by announcing that it is to launch a telephone-based banking service. The company said one of its

main targets would be to persuade its 6 million clients, who receive up to £1bn a year when their policies mature, to bank with the Pru.

It also intends to launch a massive advertising campaign aimed at winning over millions of other bank and building society customers.

The insurer also aims to bring under its own roof the mortgages it currently arranges with a panel of other lenders. confident that our prize structure will maximise returns to the Prudential's move, due to pegin by the end of next year, is part of a £30bn reorganisation

this year, which has included a series of dramatic merger

Peter Davis, Prudential's group chief executive, said that only building society-style de-posit accounts would be available at first. But he did not rule out the Pru moving into more traditional banking areas, including current accounts, credit cards and other loans.

"Offering traditional building society products of competitive deposits and mortgages is an im-portant step for Prudential in widening the range of products available to our customers," Mr Davis said.

"Prudential already arranges around £700m a year of mortgages for its customers using a nel of building societies and banks. In addition, we pay out more than £1bn per year in ma-turing policies which research shows is largely placed on de-posit with building societies and banks. Given this base, we believe we can build a substantial business in a short period of

The Pru has recruited Michael Harris, former chief executive of First Direct, the UK's first and most successful telephone-based bank, to head

its banking operation.

The launch will be backed by Prudential's 7,000-strong direct sales force and a £70m investment on equipment and office

Experts yesterday greeted the announcement with enthusiasm. "It's very positive news," said Nick Bunker, an analyst at ABN AMRO Hoare Govett. "There's always been a strate gic case for the Prudential to be in the mortgage lending and Taking on the banks, page 21

#### IN BRIEF Abuse inquiry verdict **Vote of no confidence** 01! YOU! The Confederation of British Industry John Bennett, director of social reported the biggest drop in business optimism since Britain tumbled out of services in Northumberland for the past nine years, has applied to retire on the grounds of "permanent ill-health" after an the European exchange rate mechanism in 1992. Its latest survey confirms inquiry accused him of misslower growth, described by Andrew Buxton, chairman of the CBI's Ecoleading government officials over abuse in local children's nomic Affairs Committee, as a "warn-ing signal". Page 21 Page 2 homes.

Page 9 | ing signal".

Tactical withdrawal Funeral fight Lord Young of Darrington is Both the European Commisspearheading a bid to head off the privatisation of council cresion and the European Parliament backed away from any confrontation with France over matoria, which he says will lead the issue of French nuclear to a mass take-over by one US Page 2 | tests. funeral company.

COMMENT Chris Patten: The case for seriously slimming down the state sector.

Polly Toynbee predicts that proposals for divorce reform could turn into another Child Support Agency fiasco. Page 19

News Analysis: A high street bank to suit every Page 17 kind of need?

Robert Fisk's Beirut diary. Page 17 Leading article: Beware the French Lieutenant's Grockle. Page 18

Another View: Bobbies on the beat. Page 18 Weather: The whole of the British Isles can expect a day of sunshine and showers, with gusty south-west winds. Scotland will be very windy, with heavy showers. Section Two, page 21

section

ARTS 7-10 CHESS 22 CROSSWORD 22 FINANCE 14 HEALTH 6 LAW 11 LISTINGS 20,21 REVIEWS 10 TELEVISION & RADIO 23,24 THEATRE 8,9 WEATHER 21

#### If you sponsor Shomita, no one will have to sponsor her children Little Shormaa is just six years old and the only life she's known is one of hunger poverty and disease. But by the time she has children of her own, this could be a very different story. It could be one about families, about villagers working agether to earn their own living. About children who can ead and write and have a future. About a community that can beat the sick and is free from fatal diseases. And if it is, it is because you care enough to sponsor a child. In return, we'll keep you in touch with regular reports rom our field workers plus a photograph and messages from the child you sponsor. Please sponsor a child today. With your help, we By can change the luture. Please sponsor a child today. Please send are details about sponsoring a child, or call: 01460 61073. □Alaca □Acia □Where those's greatest need i can't spensor a child most, but exclose a gift of: D500 D50 D55 D£ Make chargesPOs percible in ACTIONAID, and send to ACTIONAID, FREEPOST 854868, Charl, Somerael 7A20 18R.

BUSINESS 26-24 COMMENT 18,19 CROSSWORD 28 GAZETTE 16 LAW REPORT 16 LEADING ARTICLES 18 LETTERS 18 NEWS 2-15 OBITUARIES 16 SHARES 23 SPORT 25-28. UNIT TRUSTS 24

# Grim remains reveal 'torture masks'

WILL BENNETT

The masks allegedly used to silence women who were kept alive while being sexually abused by Rosemary and Frederick West were described to the jury at Winchester Crown Court

Seven of the nine victims whose remains were found at the couple's home at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester. ad been masked or gagged. Most had been decapitated and dismembered and many had

bones missing.
Details of the grim discoveries during the police excavation at Cromwell Street last year were given to the court by Professor Bernard Knight, a Home Office forensic pathologist who was called to examine the remains found at the house.

PETER VICTOR

Lord Young of Dartington is

spearheading an attempt to head off the privatisation of

tional Funerals College, which

is writing to all the local au-

thorities in Britain, claims the

sale of council crematoria will lead to a mass takeover by one

Lord Young, a life peer and

American funeral company.

founding president of the fu-

nerals college, has laid down a

motion in the House of Lords

aimed at scuppering the Gov-ernment's planned privatisa-

tion of Britain's 193 municipal

According to the funerals college, the Government plans

to transfer these to the private

sector "on as large a scale as

It will offer councils a "bribe" to encourage them to sell, the college adds. "Up to now the

grip of the central government

has required councils to set aside 50 per cent of any cre-

matoria sales and use it to re-deem debt. Under the new

regulations they will be able to keep for their general purpos-

es 90 per cent rather than 50 per

"The inducement is to oper-

te only for a period of 18

months from 1 January 1996.

Privatisation is to be rushed

through, it seems, before the

Local authorities are under

vironmental regulations on pol- death."

financial pressure to raise funds

for the cost of meeting new en-

cent of the proceeds.

general election."

Mrs West, 41, denies murdering ten girls and young women whose remains were found at 25 Cromwell Street and at the West's previous home in Gloucester. Mr West, who was charged with 12 murders was found dead in his prison cell on the 1st January

The court heard that the bones of Shirley Hubbard, 15, were found in the cellar at Cromwell Street with her skull encased in a mask of brown parcel-type adhesive tape ound around her head 11 or 12 times. Inserted in this was a plastic tube, part of which was bent up to reach her nostrils.

Alison Chambers, 16, was discovered with a leather belt fastened around her skull while a knotted cloth, square-folded and rolled to form a loop, was

lution. Under the Environmental Protection Act, crematoria

have to meet new smoke-emis-

sion standards, and the cost is

likely to be at least £450,000 to

upgrade each crematorium.
The Government has also

told councils that they must get

money from private sector part-

ners or buyers before seeking

any cash from taxpayers for the

college only one private sector

buyer has expressed any inter-

est; Service Corporation In-

ternational, an American

funeral service company, has al-

ready acquired funeral directors covering 15 per cent of the Unit-

ed Kingdom funeral market.

A college spokesman said:

The Government will be helping to create a monopoly, start-ing with a series of local

monopolies linking local funeral directors to the local cre-

matorium. The costs of funer-

als are already an awful burden to some people and the burden

could become much more so in

This is particularly worry-ing, according to the college, be-cause there will be no outside

regulator to oversee the funer-

al companies. It warns: "If the

Government refuses to with-

commercialisation of funerals

could be taken much further

than it has so far. The funda-

mental religious significance of

a funeral could be further

dimmed by an array of devices

for making more money out of

the future.

According to the funerals

Peer leads fight

to scupper sale

of crematoria



Bernard Knight: Remains

found next to the skull of Therese Siegenthaler, 21. Lucy Partington, 21, had two pieces of woven cord-type material knotted together below her jaw, and Juanita Mott, 18, was discovered with a band of

fabric passing under her jaw and around the back of her head and with a plastic covered rope wrapped around other bones.

A ring-mask of adhesive tape was found near the skull of Lynda Gough 19, and Carol Cooper, 15, was discovered with an elasticated cloth band around the low part of her skull which had been wound round her jaw and the back of her head.

There were no masks on Heather West, 16, or Shirley Robinson, 18, whose remains were also found at 25 Cromwell Street, or on those of Charmaine West, 8, daughter of Mr West's first wife Rena, discovered at their previous home at

25 Midland Road, Gloucester. Professor Knight said that most of the bodies had been decapitated, dismembered and had the legs removed at the hip

at Cromwell Street were in "anatomical disarray" in graves too small for them to be buried

full-length. In every case bones were ing, most commonly one or both knee caps, and large numbers of wrist ankle, toe and finger bones. There were cut marks made by sharp implements on many bones and a knife was found in Lucy

Partington's grave. Professor Knight said that it was not possible to give the cause of death in any of these cases or to say whether or not decapitation and dismember-ment took place after the victims had died.

During the evidence about the remains of Heather West, her mother, who normally watches everything being said in

joints. The remains discovered the witness box, looked intently that?" Mrs West shook her at the floor of the dock.

Earlier the jury had listened to tape recordings of police interviews with Mrs West after her arrest in February last year.

Detective Sergeant Terence Onions told her that Mr West had gone back to 25 Cromwell Street with police officers. DS Onions said: "During that visit to the house he indicated the officers were digging in the wrong area of the patio or gar-den. He then indicated where they should dig and indicated to

what depth they should dig. A short while ago human \*emains have been recovered form the area which Mr West has indicated and for obvious reasons we believe those human remains to be those of your danighter Heather, Is there any thing you want to say about

head and did not reply. DS Onions asked: "Was [Heather] killed because, as you said, she was different from the rest because she was going to blow the whistle on what happened in your house? Which, from statements I have read from your children, was a bit like a prison

not know nothing about it." During the interview she told police that her husband had forced her to have sex with black men who paid him for this, and that she had slept with one of them the night after Heather vanished. She said that her husband was a violent man who had hit her on a number of occasions, once twisting her jaw, and that he had once tried to choke her.

The trial continues today.

#### IN BRIEF Siamese twins given

solar black out: Ali

private funeral The Siamese twins Nicole and Chloe Astbury, who died last Thursday after surviving 35 days, were buried yesterday at

Denton cemetery, Manchester. The girls' father, Brian Astbary, 26, carried the joint coffin, followed by his wife, Melanie, 25, and about 40 mounters after a Church of England service in the emetery chapel. The twins died of a rare bowel discuse within five minutes of each other at St Mary's Hospital, Manchigster, where they were born

Mass DNA tests. \* for them." Mrs West said: "I do Warwickshire police took the fi of up to 800 DNA samples

killer of Naomi Smith, 15, wh mutilated body was found 2 yards from her home at Anste Common near Nuneaton on 14. September after she had gone out to post a letter. Police described it as an "elimination exercise", which is not compulsory.

Gurkhas reprieved Four hundred Gurkhas who were going to be made redundant because of army cuts will be kept on for another three years to fill gaps in British in-fantry regiments resulting from the current recruiting criss.

Archdeacon ousted One of the Church of England's most controversial traditional most controversal training arists, the Venerable George Austen, the Archdeacon of York has lost his fight for a seat on the General Synod The Venerable Christopher Hawthorn, the Archdeacon of Cleveland, replaces him.

Firefighters' strikes Members of the Fire Brigade Union in Merseyside an-nounced more 24 hour strikes - on 1, 2, 4 and 6 November when talks over job losses and shift patterns broke down.

#### One up, three down

A man who fell through three floors when his terrace house in Huddersfield collapsed walked away with just bruising. Builders were working on the floor below where George Gayle was watching television when the house collapsed.

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### Prison attack leads to security inquiry An inquiry was set up yesterday bation officer, Julia Flack, 49, no one had told its workers that members of staff. The Prison threats, abuse or assaults over

convicted killer, had made several threats before he tried to throttle a probation worker at Wakefield jail, writes Jason

Sams, 53, attacked the pro- Probation Officers claimed that of threats, mainly against female said they had experienced since 1983 to 14,000 in 1993.

into prison security as it an archdeacon's wife, on Monemerged that Michael Sams, a day as she held a surgery in the prison. Sams was jailed two years ago for the murder of Julie Dart and the kidnap of an estate agent, Stephanie Slater. The National Association of

Sams had been transferred to Service is investigating the case. the prison's B wing, where the incident took place.

Face to face: Archbishop Desmond Tutu with his bust, by John Houlston, which was presented to King's College London yesterday

Its assistant general secretary Harry Fletcher also claimed that there had been complaints that Sams had made a number

the day that a Government report was published, revealing the results of a survey in which one-third of the Hertfordshire probation staff who took part

a three-year period.

Better training and risk assessment must be carried out, the report said. It added that the number of dangerous criminals probation workers deal with had more than doubled

ed back to the Department of

Health that areas of concern

that he felt that the review

team had reached the wrong

conclusions. Mr Kilgailon said:

"In my view the reports to the

social services committee and to

the Department of Health do

did not indicate a regime akin to pindown".

Mr Bennett told the inquiry

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# Council chief quits in abuse row

GLENDA COOPER

A council social services director is retiring after an inquiry ac-cused him of misleading government officials over abuse in local children's homes.

John Bennett, director of social services in Northumberland for nine years, has applied to retire on "grounds of per-manent ill-health", the council leader, Ian Swithenbank, said last night

The report, commissioned by Northumberland County Council and carried out by William Kilgallon, chief execu-tive of a Leeds housing trust, found that the reasons Mr Bennett gave for suppressing alle-gations of practices "akin to pindown" to both the Department of Health and his own social services committee were

not convincing". In 1991 the department requested all authorities to review esidential child care practices in the wake of the Staffordshire



"the worst element of institutional control" such as special clothing, strict routine, segre-

"a very worrying general attimittee that there "was no eviter the local authority actude towards children and [the dence of practices similar to knowledged that there was



John Bennett, left, and William Kilgalion, who found the director suppressed evidence of 'pindown' in a children's home

Eight of the nine homes in

Mr Bennett's area were found to be satisfactory. But at Netherton Park, which houses boys and girls with difficult behaviour, the review team found



log books] contained material indicating practices that might be said to be "akin to pined an independent review should be set up "as a matter of

urgency". However Mr Bennett withdrew all copies of the report and told the social services com-

not reflect the conclusions of the review team and the reasons given for the withdrawal of their report are not convincing."

Mr Bennett's decision to stand down came as a surprise development from yesterday's publication of the inquiry report which was initially set up to look

into the separate issue of complaints about the Meadowdale Children's Home at Bedlington during the 1970s and 1980s. The report into sexual and physical abuse at Meadowdale will now be referred back to the

Crown Prosecution Service af-

those which took place in "sufficient substance to the al-Staffordshire" and also report-legations to give serious cause legations to give serious cause for concern The Kilgallon report speaks of three staff members, who

used "physical chastisement, particularly on male residents", including the practice known as "knuckling" - a blow to the head The report also looked at the issue of "inappropriate re-

straint" at Meadowdale arising from children who, due to their disabilities, had difficulty using ordinary furniture or beds. "Robert" [not his real name].

now aged 16, suffering from cerebral palsy and epilepsy, was filmed aged 10 tied down in his bed with a baby harness and thick leather straps.

The video was given to his 35year-old mother by her son's former foster parents who obtained it accidentally. She said: "I felt disgusted when I saw it. Someone somewhere will have to answer to me over this. What I hope is that the report will show that the people who did

# Children betrayed by the professionals

contain the sad irony: the children were put there because it was thought they would be safer, writes Glenda Cooper. As the mother of "Robert", who went to Meadowdale, said: "I handed him over to these 'professionals' and this is how I've

been repaid." The Cleveland inquiry in 1987 identified serious faults in the system by which children were taken into care. Four years later "pindown" - where children in the care of Staffordshire County Council were kept in isolation for days as a pun-

Allegations of abuse in homes ishment for unruly behaviour catapulted care in residential homes into prominence.

Under pindown, children were left in their nightclothes, not allowed to speak to anyone, had to knock on the door to go to the lavatory and had no books or entertainment. Some tried to kill themselves.

But Staffordshire was not the only scandal. In the 1980s, at the Kincora boys' home in Northern Ireland, three people, including the house father, were convicted of sexual offences. Frank Beck was convicted in 1991 of 17 charges of sexual and

physical abuse of boys and girls into allegations of abuse in other men received jail senin Leicestershire children's homes. He died in prison in June 1994.

Two damning independent reports into the case were published in February 1993. One. for the Police Complaints An-thority, accused officers of "incompetence, negligence and prejudice" in dealing with Beck and blamed them for tending to disbelieve children.

The other report into the county's social services department judged managers "inadequate, naive and out of their depth". In 1992, a police inquiry children's homes in North Wales became the biggest investigation ever mounted.

It was estimated there were more than 200 allegations of abuse revolving around two council-run children's homes; Bryn Estyn, in Wrexham, Clywd, and Ty'r Felin, in Bangor, Gwynedd

Altogether 46 homes were under investigation in Clywd and 17 in Gwynedd. Peter Howarth, deputy principal of indecency with children. Two

tences after being found guilty of sexual assaults and two others were given conditional dis-

Less than six months ago, a report said Islington Council's "politically correct" equal opportunities policy led to children being left at risk from suspected child abusers.

The council was accused of operating a "pro-active" antidiscrimination policy of recruiting staff without con-Bryn Estyn between 1976 and ducting checks on their back-1984 was jailed for 10 years for ground, thus failing to protect children from unsuitable staff.

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# Asia shrouded in a total eclipse of the sun



Darkest hour: The total eclipse of the sun at Saraburi in central Thailand yesterday, while (right) young Buddhist monks view a partial eclipse at Mae Sot on the border between Thailand and Burma

Photographs: Reuter

Rajasthan

In confusion, the birds stopped flying. The sun was still shining in the Rajasthan desert, and yet it grew cold. The shadows cast by the neem trees spilled out over the ground and spread, until the earth and the sky ran together like quicksilver. India's ast total solar eclinse of the cen-

The total solar eclipse was around 100 miles wide, from Afghanistan through Pakistan, In Bangkok, the eclipse made the rush-hour traffic jams even worse as people stopped to gaze heavenwards at the darkenine morning sky.

India's Taj Mahal, which was only partially in the eclipse's path, was bathed in pearly twi-light, while the sky blackened completely over Cambodia's Angor Wat temples. Nobody wants to see a solar

clipse alone, when the light of the heavens goes out, and along seen by millions across Asia. It the road to Jaipur, incongruous stretched in a narrow band, groups - shepherd boys, lony drivers, tourists and a few amateur astronomers-lauddled to-

The shepherds and gaunt, turbanned farmers passed around a blackened glass, or tried viewing the eclipse through a sweet wrapper. They sneaked hurried glimpses at the sun as though peeking

through a doorway at something forbidden, dangerous, while beside them, astronomers twirled the knobs on their tinted-lens telescopes and cursed every time the clusive eclipse slid from sight.

On the highway between Delhi and Jaipur, a man appeared selling day-glow green sunglasses "special for eclipse:

and then cycled off to make his last profit this century on garish eclipse sunglasses.

As the Moon crossed in front of the Sun, I could see an effect known as the Diamond Ring, in which the sunrays blaze out from a deep valley on the Moon's edge like a sparkling gem. The sky was dark enough, in mid-morning, to see a thorny chuster of stars. In seconds, the Sun was entirely blotted out by the Moon, Solar flares, some slithering out into space for 3 million miles, became visible. I could see where the ancients believed that during an eclipse, the only". At five rupees a pair, the Sun was being devoured by an-ries had crashed. A few corpses

die hard; far off in the Rajasthan desert, a gun was fired, presumably at the eclipse.

The complete solar eclipse lasted around 30 seconds, perhaps less. To witness this, I had dragged my family out of bed at 4am and driven 100 miles down the Jaipur road, one of the most perilous in all India. Usually, the highway streams with buses, lorries and camel carts, but because of bad luck associated with eclipses, many drivers stayed at home.

Not all the drivers did, though. Where the highway narrowed for a bridge, three lorcanvas. As we stopped to examine the wreck, a Sikh asked if we were going to see the eclipse. He was.

Was the eclipse inauspicious? The Sikh glanced at the burning lorry on the Jaipur road and shrugged, "No, this is a daily oc-

Returning to the capital yesterday morning, I found the streets deserted even though it was supposed to be a normal work day. People who had stayed in New Delhi during the eclipse said that the sudden darkness had grounded thousands of crows and other birds.

predicting eclipses since the fifth century, ancient supersticalamities which are thought to tions about the curse of the gods follow in an eclipse's wake. still grip many Indians. Pregnant women were warned to stay in-

doors to shield against harm to their foetuses, and many Hindus refused breakfast because the eclipse's shadow rays are believed to contaminate food. Thousands of Hindu holy

men, known as sadhus, converged on a large tank at Kurukshetra, 70 miles west of
New Delhi, to wash away the
the monks deemed the eclipse polluting effects of the eclipse. Many Indians shuttered themselves up at home, watching the from Britain, who gathered Even though Hindu as- event on television or per- along the path of the ellipse,

the personal and national

Earlier Guards at Cambo dia's Angor Wat temples had been disarmed to stop them from shooting in a panic at the dragon swallowing the sun. Thousands of Buddhist monks and visitors also gathered anxiously at Angor to watch whether the eclipse would bring good luck or bad.

to be good. For the hundreds of astronomers, including over 50 nan found a few customers gry scrpents. These superstitions were laid out under a dirty tronomers have been adept at forming ceremonies to ward off there was never any doubt.

# Nature's most awe-inspiring display is a scientific 'fluke'

disc of the moon completely covers that of the sun - occurs because of a fluke of nature. The apparent size of the two discs in the sky are almost identical, which makes it possible for

the moon to blot out the sun. The true diameter of the sun is some 400 times greater than that of the moon, but because the sun is about 400 times further away, they both appear to be the same size when viewed from Earth, which creates the "black-out" effect of

an eclipse. Jacqueline Mitton of the Royal Astronomical Society said that total solar eclipses, such as the one that swept yes—AD840, a total eclipse caused terday across a large swathe of—Louis of Bavaria to die of fright. south-east Asia, from India to ing" event. "Gradually, the because the distance between

A total solar eclipse - when the A trick of the light can change the course of history, writes **Steve Connor** 

> minutes, the sun's yellow disk is completely covered, leaving only the ghostly light of the sun's Such is the drama of a total

so terrified the Athenians, that the Syracusians found them easy to slaughter. And in The apparent sizes of the sun The apparent sizes of the sun and moon can vary slightly

moon edges further over the the moon and the Earth also face of the sun. For just a few. changes. This means that sometimes the moon's disk is too

small for a total eclipse, causing an "annular" eclipse, where corona. Darkness falls as if it the bright outside rim of the sm remains visible. In 1919, British astronomers solar eclipse that, in 585BC, an used a total eclipse to demon-

eclipse ended the five-year war strate that light rays from dis-between King Alyattes of the stant stars are bent by the gravity Lydians and King Cyarares of the sun, helping to prove Ein-the Medes. Another in 413BC stein's theory of relatively, according to Yvonne Elsworth, lecturer in physics at Birming-ham University.

Dr Elsworth added that recording the times and dates of solar eclipses has also enabled

of the moon and the planets. A total solar eclipse also allows astronomers to study the mountains of the moon, because of the shadows it generates as the moon moves past the sun. Another subject of research assisted by a solar eclipse is the sun's outer corona - its upper atmosphere which, at one mil-lion degrees Celsius, is much hotter than the surface.

A total hunar eclipse occurs when the Earth moves between the sun and the moon, causing the Earth's shadow to fall on the moon and cover it completely.

Christopher Columbus used his knowledge of lunar eclipses to predict one on the night of 29 February 1504. He then told the natives of Jamaica that God would be angry with them, scientists to make precise mea-surements of the orbital track for his ship - which they did.

# BIAIN'S DESE

Until then, there's Glenfiddich to enjoy.

# Mongolia set for tourism boost

STEVE CONNOR

A rush of bookings is expected for trips to Outer Mongolia after yesterday's solar eclipse across Asia. The next total solar eclipse will take place in the world's coldest country in March 1997; even though March temperatures in Mongolia fall as low as -35C (-95F), astronomical holidays to the chosen viewing site north of Ulan Bator are selling fast. Public interest in holidays

1986, when thousands of en- just long for more," he said. thusiastic amateurs converged Queensland for the once-in-a-Eclipses are much more frequent and predictable events, with the United States space

Using this data, specialist logical records to find the most favourable spot on the eclipse based on the convergence of the Earth, Moon and Sun. For Where to watch the next eclipses minutes 50 seconds in North-east Asia 

total eclipse was his fifth suc-Ulan Bator are selling fast.
Public interest in holidays
based around astronomical

Cessful viewing out of six attempts. "Every eclipse is different, and for this one the events has grown steadily since sun's corona was beautiful. You

Many of the 312 people takon places like Cairns in north en to Fatchpur Sikri, near New Delhi, yesterday by Explorers lifetime visit by Halley's Comet. Tours from Berkshire were veteran eclipse watchers. They had paid a minimum of £795 for a week in India, including return agency Nasa providing detailed flights from London and visits. predictions of timing, location to the Taj Mahal in Agra and the old royal observatory in Jaipur.

Tempers flared at one point tour operators study meteoro-logical records to find the most servers. The British contingent had arranged for part of the antrack, then construct holidays cient site to be reserved for its members, but upon arrival at dawn the location was already

Michael Gill, from Solihull in filled with a team of Japanese the West Midlands, yesterday's astronomers plus four armed guards. British observers retreated to higher ground, amid accusations of bribery. The Japanese were also castigated for using a public address system to keep observers informed about the progress of the Moon across the surface of the Sun.

Yesterday's eclipse was regarded as painfully brief by seasoned watchers, a mere 45 seconds compared with a theoretical maximum of more than seven minutes. So as soon as the "fourth contact" took place (the moment when the Moon slipped away from the surface of the Sun), plans were being laid for other eclipses between now and the end of the Millennium. The total eclipse in the Caribbean in February 1998 is expected to attract considerably

golian event, with the island of Curação one of the favourite viewpoints. And the only total eclipse on British soil this cen-tury is scheduled for the west of Cornwall in August 1999. Although the weather omens are not promising bookings in the Truro area are already heavy.

The interest in astronomical phenomena is not restricted to amateur astronomers; as well as all the news crews at Fatehpur Sikri, two television teams were filming for documentaries to be shown in Britain.

Bruce Hardie, a retired BBC

film unit manager and director of the solar section of the British Astronomical Association, missed out on yesterday's eclipse but has seen at least half a dozen others around the world. "It's become popular with the modern-day travel. Eclipse tours are the in-thing at the moment. People go out to look around a country and include an eclipse at the same time. Some tour operators make it a feature," he said.

His best personal experience of totality was in Mexico in 1991 when a total solar eclipse last-

# THE REFERENCIAN PARTY.

# Statement of Aims.

Why do we need the Referendum Party?

Both the Conservative and Labour parties are committed to the Maastricht Treaty which has resulted in a major transfer of sovereignty to European institutions. Both parties have refused to submit the European issue to a public vote or referendum. Fundamental constitutional changes, relinquishing sovereignty, should require the consent of the people.

The purpose of the Referendum Party is to present candidates whose single responsibility is to vote in Parliament for such a referendum.

#### Is there anything else on the Referendum Party's political agenda?

No. The Referendum Party has been created for one reason only: to obtain a fair referendum on Europe. Once the referendum has been held, the Party will dissolve itself. This is explicitly written into the Party's constitution. The Referendum Party has no other agenda or purpose.

#### But aren't referenda contrary to Britain's political tradition?

There have been 4 referenda since 1973, all on fundamental constitutional issues. They were:

\*The Northern Ireland Border Poll, 8 March 1973.

\*UK membership of the European Economic Community (EEC), 5 June 1975. (To be a member of the EEC as it was then structured according to the Treaty of Rome.)

\*Devolution for Scotland, 1 March 1979.

\*Devolution for Wales, 1 March 1979.

More recently, John Major has promised a referendum in Ulster on the outcome of the peace talks.

Britain's foremost constitutional authority, A.V.Dicey, wrote "the main use of the Referendum is to prevent the passing of any important Act which does not command the sanction of the electors."

"The Referendum supplies ... the best, if not the only possible, check upon ill-considered alterations in the fundamental institutions of the country."

#### Why do we need a referendum?

It is almost impossible to find an issue more important to the nation than the Maastricht Treaty and its amendments. Germany's governing party, the alliance of the Christian Democrats and the C.S.U., last September published its vision of Europe. Since then, they have described their views publicly on numerous occasions. In effect, they believe that there should be a European supra-state into which would be fused all the nations of Europe. This state would have one Parliament, one Government, one Supreme Court of Justice, one currency.

Most of the Christian Democrats, in other European nations, including the British Conservative MEPs who are allied with the

Christian Democrats, and most European Socialists support the general line of the German proposals.

In 1975, when Britain voted by referendum to join the European Economic Community, the proposal was quite different. The Community was to consist of sovereign nations which would cooperate to their mutual advantage without abandoning their national identities. The concept was one of a family of nations, not of a single European supra-state.

No matter whether you are in favour of or against Maastricht, you should nonetheless welcome a referendum,. Those in favour should realise that so radical a change needs to be endorsed by a majority of the public. Those opposed seek a right to vote against the proposals.

When both major parties hold similar views on a single vital issue of overwhelming importance the only way for the electorate to express itself is by a referendum.

#### Does that mean the Referendum Party is opposed to the single market?

No. The Referendum Party's only policy concerns the need for a fair referendum on Maastricht and any successor treaty. However, it should be clear that there is a fundamental difference between the 1986 Single European Act, which removed barriers to the free movement of people, goods and services within Europe, and the Maastricht Treaty, which provides the legal and political framework for a single European supra-state. The latter represents an irreversible transfer of power and should be submitted to a popular vote.

#### How many candidates will the Referendum Party field?

The Referendum Party will field candidates in each parliamentary constituency in which the principal candidates of the major parties are not committed to a fair referendum on the Maastricht Treaty and its proposed amendments.

#### Will you be fielding candidates in Northern Ireland?

No. We believe that it would be a mistake to introduce yet another complication to Ulster at this critical time.

#### Who will be your candidates?

Referendum Party candidates are ordinary men and women, trusted by their local communities, who share the conviction that there should be a referendum on Europe.

#### Why "ordinary people"? Aren't your candidates likely to be politically inexperienced?

The Referendum Party's platform consists of one item only - the right to a referendum. We are not seeking professional politicians but, on the contrary, people who will go to Westminster, vote for a fair referendum, ensure that it is conducted fairly, and then return to their normal lives.

#### Will the Referendum Party fight by-elections?

How can I participate in the Referendum Party's campaign?

We welcome support and active involvement and hope that those who share our objectives will register with us as supporters.

#### Does the Referendum Party welcome as supporters those who are in favour of Maastricht but, nonetheless, approve of a referendum?

Of course. The Referendum Party's purpose is exclusively to obtain a referendum so that people can vote on an issue which will affect their whole future. After a referendum has been obtained, the party will dissolve itself and individual supporters will be free to campaign as they see fit.

#### Have candidates already been recruited? We have established a national organisation with regional representation which currently is appointing candidates. We are organising qui-

etly but certainly throughout the country.

#### Would it not be preferable just to support Eurosceptic MPs against their opponents?

In every constituency, we will make a political judgment as to whether or not to field a candidate. Our plan is to support MPs of the major parties who are formally committed to voting for a fair referendum, by not putting forward candidates against them. As we have witnessed in the present Parliament, it is not sufficient just to have a minority of Eurosceptics in the established parties to obtain a referendum, no matter the extent of their commitment.

#### What do you mean by a "fair" referendum?

The question has to be fair and the terms of the debate have to be fair. The question should cover the Maastricht Treaty and its proposed subsequent amendments. The Treaty provides for Inter-Governmental Conferences (IGCs) which are empowered to alter its terms. The next IGC is scheduled for 1996.

The public should be allowed to vote on the broad issue and not be granted a pseudoreferendum restricting the question to technical issues.

Insofar as the debate is concerned, the time and money allocated to each side should be split between those in favour and those against. Maastricht is not a left-right issue. It is one of yes or no. It transcends the traditional party groupings. As all the established political parties are in favour of the Europe of Maastricht, they cannot be expected to determine the terms of the question or the rules of the debate. Both need to be settled independently.

#### By what procedure?

A group of respected citizens whose members would consist, in equal proportions, of those in favour and those against the Europe of Maastricht, should consider the issues publicly and put forward proposals to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

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#### If the main political parties commit to a referendum, will the Referendum Party stand down?

Yes. If the question and the terms of the debate are fair and the result is binding.

#### Would the Referendum Party then dissolve itself?

Yės.

# What happens if the Referendum Party were to obtain a majority in a General Flection?

It is possible to pass a single piece of legislation in a matter of weeks. Therefore, a Referendum Act could be passed quickly and a fresh General Election called immediately thereafter. In the interim, a national government would be formed whose members would be drawn from all political parties represented in the House of Commons.

# What would be the Referendum Party's policy if a number of its candidates were elected but not enough to constitute a majority?

Referendum Party MPs would vote tactically to best ensure the passing of a Referendum Act.

#### Did Sir James Goldsmith found the Referendum Party?

Yes. The Referendum Party was founded by Sir James Goldsmith in November 1994. Before then, Sir James, who holds dual British and French nationality, co-founded a political group in France together with Philippe de Villiers, Charles de Gaulle and Thierry Jean-Pierre, the well-known anti-corruption prosecutor.

Thirteen members of the new group were elected and they now form part of the "Europe of Nations" group in the European Parliament. This group brings together MEPs from the Netherlands, Denmark and France and is chaired by Sir James.

#### Does Sir James want to become a figure in British politics?

No. Sir James's objective is to obtain a referendum on this critical issue and let the people decide. He seeks no wider role on the political stage.

#### Why would Sir James spend all this money for no reason?

The political leadership in both main parties are refusing a popular referendum. In effect, voters have been disenfranchised on an issue which will determine the nation's sovereignty and continued identity. There can be no better reason.

#### Will Sir James be a Referendum Party candidate?

Yes. At the next general election, he will resume his residence in Surrey and stand for a local constituency.

THE REFERENDUM PARTY, 39 BUCKINGHAM GATE, LONDON SW1E 6BS. TEL: 0171-828 1673. FAX: 0171-828 0165

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Lottery charities: A guide to the great and good who pick the worthiest causes 

Board rejects 'political correctness' claims



Community spirit: Damian Killeen, director of the Strathclyde Poverty Alliance, who denied accusations that he runs 'a political campaign'

# Winning qualities of decision-makers with cash to spend

REBECCA FOWLER

As the National Lottery Charities Board allocated its first £40m to organisations fighting poverty this week, the creden-tials of its members came under scrutiny. Who is qualified to decide which causes should benefit from lottery money, while others flounder?

The charities board has 21 members representing England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, picked by ministers from industry, academia and charities.

The board is led by David Sieff, a director of Marks and Spencer, who is a lover of horse-racing, a member of the council for industry of the Prince's Youth Business Trust,

and chairman of Racing Welfare Ms Clarke said. The board is Charities. Mr Sieff, who will be given recommendations from paid for one day's work a week from a salary range of up to £55,000 a year, is supported by a team of sub-chairmen, who will also receive some payment and non-paid members recom-

mended by the voluntary sector. Among the most recent recruits to the board is Stella Clarke, a JP and deputy lieu-tenant of Avon and chairman of council of Bristol University, who has been involved in social housing. She was asked to join the board by Baroness Blatch, the Home Office minister.

"If you've done things for some time in this area you've got a pretty good feeling for what people are doing, and how they are working in the community,

given recommendations from regional advisory panels of volunteers. They are co-ordinated by salaried regional managers and their reports are based on the findings of a team of more than 100 freelance assessors.

The system was defended by Sir Adam Ridley, another mem-ber of the charities board's UK committee, a board member of Hambros Bank; former special adviser to the Chancellor and member for the Council of Charitable Support. Sir Adam said the board's

philosophy was to make a dif-ference. You could have a populist organisation that hands out money to Guide Dogs for the Blind, but money is already going there".

#### Other members of the National Lottery Charities Board

isa Bering: chairman of the Association of

gonel Course; muched with white or com-gonel Course; muched and with any won-ecole with HIV and Aids. stine: Record agent of the Bank of Eng-thanish member of the University of New-upon Tyne; non-executive, director of history with the course of the

# Lottery board chief rejects Tory critics

JOHN ARLIDGE

Scotland Correspondent

The National Lottery Charities Board yesterday denied fresh charges that its decision to award millions of pounds to of benefits to 16- to 18-year-olds organisations fighting poverty and cold weather payments. was misguided and "politically

John Rafferty, the board's director in Scotland, said that the

fied". Tory MPs criticised the award, the largest of the first tranche of grants announced on of growts like the SPA which, Monday, as politically correct because the alliance campaigns on issues such as the restoration

David Mellor, the former Secretary of State for National Heritage, and Phil Gallie, the Tory MP for Ayr, said that lotdecision to award £666,000 to tery funds would have been betthe Strathciyde Poverty ter allocated to brganisations Alliance was "right and justi- like the Royal National Institute

#### Guidelines issued to grant applicants

**RHYS WILLIAMS** 

When charities apply to the Na-tional Lottery Charities Board for grants, they are asked to bear firmly in mind the criteria that the board's assessors will use when considering awards.

According to the board's guidelines issued to applicants, assessment criteria fall into four categories - policy, potential achievements, management and long-term viability.

First, applicants are asked to consider whether their initiatives fit with the board's policy priorities. The initial round of handouts now and in December will concentrate on schemes tackling poverty. Next spring, for example, the emphasis will shift to health, disability and care charities, as well as British char-

ities working abroad.
Board assessors will then evaluate the degree to which the charity's proposed activity: involve users and beneficiaries in its development and manage-ment, encourages community participation, and fosters selfhelp or improvement. The board also considers how well is being spent appropriately.

plicants must demonstrate that any scheme is well-managed and financially sound, well-planned and staffed appropriately, cost-effective and good value for money, committed to equal opportunities, and able to involve

volunteers effectively. Finally, assessors may case: examine other factors which aifect the long-term success of a scheme. They may, for example,... consider the presence of strate-gic and innovative thinking – does the activity reflect new ways of thinking about existing problems; whether there will be sustainable benefit to people or communities who participate: the potential of the activity to be seen as a pilot or model of good practice, or the likeli-hood of the activity continuing

once funding ends.
If successful, applicants will then be monitored in two main ways. First, the board will require progress reports from or-ganisations. Second, it will make random spot checks or request additional, detailed information to ensure that the money

they claimed, were "concerned with single interest politics".

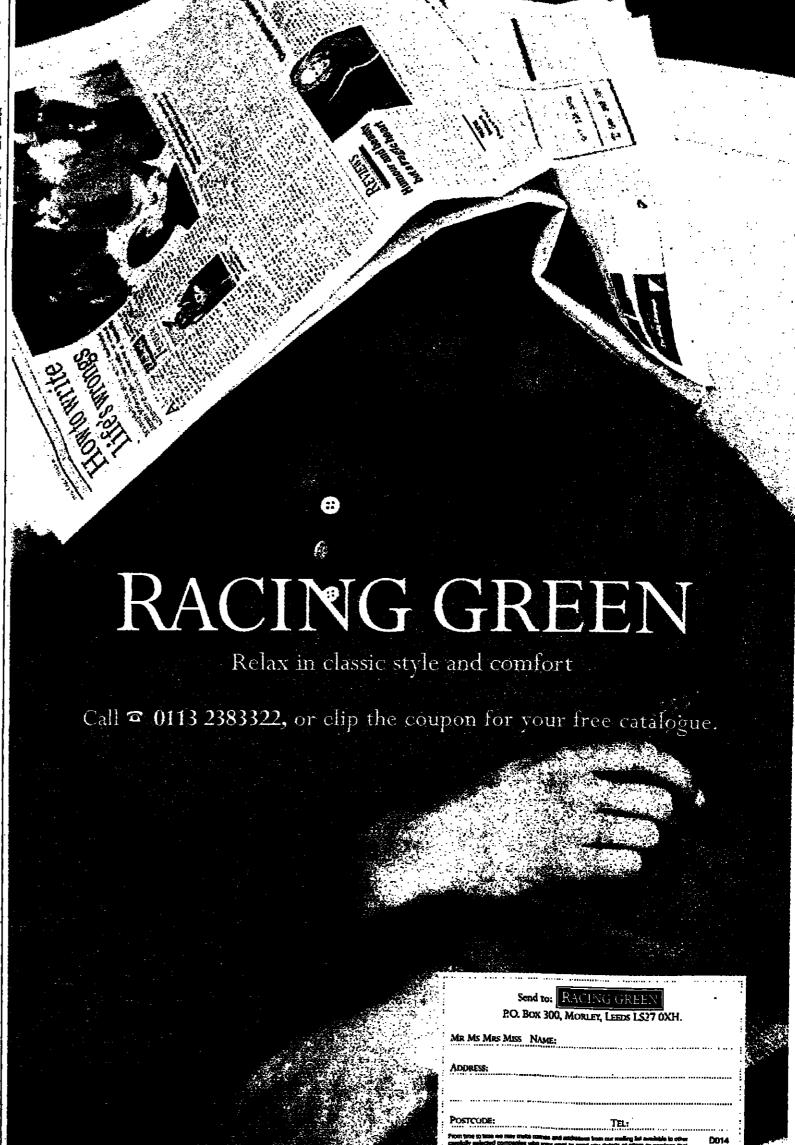
But Mr Rafferty yesterday described the criticism as incomprehensible. He insisted that the SPA, which provides training for local community groups seeking to combat poverty in the west of Scotland, nised by the Inland Revenue.

The Strathclyde Poverty Alliance is a registered charity. Charities are not political or-ganisations," he said. "The SPA does very valuable work. It met the criteria we set and submitted an excellent application. We

were happy to support it."
He said that the Scottish Office recently provided £33,000 for one SPA project. "This organisation is recognised by the Inland Revenue and directly supported by the Government in Scotland."

At the SPA's Glasgow head-quarters Damian Killeen, its director, called the criticism "ill-informed". He said political campaigns and lobbying represented only "a very small" part of the alliance's work. It was impossible, he added, to avoid being accused of political bias when dealing with issues like poverty. "We are not a political campaign. Campaigns are only one of the things we do. It is part of any repertoire for addressing

The vast bulk of the SPA's work was with members of its 500 affiliated community groups in the Glasgow area. The al-liance provided training and skills programmes for people to enable them to lobby their lo-cal authorities and health boards. It also helped groups to set up food co-operatives, credit unions, and transport services in a region where three families in 10 are on income support.



#### Briton held on failed warrant

IAN MacKINNON

A 48-year-old woman has been held for three weeks on an international warrant which failed in the British courts three years ago after being arrested on a day trip to France.

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Brenda Price, who is de-tained at Loos prison in Lille, is accused of involvement in a gium and were stopped by poplot to smuggle hashish into Spain in 1991, when she was allegedly seen handing over the keys of a lorry said to have been

sed in the crime. Four British men were arrested and convicted after police found the Moroccan drugs stored at a Spanish villa. An arrest warrant for Mr

Price, 48, was issued in October 1992 and she was arrested at her home in Harlow, Essex, the following January. She was held in Holloway jail

in London for four weeks as the Madrid authorities prepared the extradition papers, but at a hearing at Bow Street Magis-trates' Court the proceedings failed when the papers failed to arrive on time. Spain has made no further attempts to pursue the warrant and Mrs Price has travelled abroad a number of times without incident.

However, on 5 October, Mrs Price, her husband, Sam and a

lice on the way back for a routine passport check.

Computer records revealed the Interpol warrant and she was arrested. The British consulate and her lawyer, Bernard Thompson, have visited Mrs Price several times but say the Spanish have provided no further information.

Mr Price, a market trader, said: "I know she'll be in a terrible state. I don't know how all this can happen after so long. She is totally innocent and had already been discharged by the court here because the Spaniards didn't want to proceed with the case."

But the Home Office said the Spanish would have been within their rights to reactivate their extradition attempts.

A spokesman at the Foreign Office said it was investigating the possibility of pressing the Spanish to move the matter for-

# Writer finds himself author of traffic gridlock in Dorset



John Fowles, the author of best-selling novel The French Lieutenant's Roman, has launched an attack on traffic congestion in his home town of Lyme Regis - but admits that much of it was due to the

popularity of his book.

Mr Fowles claims that traffic jams in the picturesque Dorset town, where the Oscarnominated Hollywood film version of the novel, which starred Meryl Streep and Jeremy Irons. was shot, have reached LA-style "gridlock" levels due to tourists. and the behaviour of shop-

keepers.
"Much of the crowding problem is caused by shopkeepers leaving their deliveries until the middle of the day. They feel it doesn't matter if they jam Lyme Regis up," he said, adding: "Lyme Regis is a jewel. There has, only this year, been a very successful attempt to clean one part of the setting

- our once very dirty sea. They have cleaned up the sea really nicely. Now we need help to similarly cleanse our roads." But the 69-year-old author of other classics such as The Magus

Forlorn: Meryl Streep in

is's popularity is his own fault. "I'm atraid much of it is due to my book. It's a kind of guilt I always have in me, that people come here because they've read and The Collector admitted yesmy book. They're not coming to meet me, but to see the

> Mr Fowles believes the traffic congestion is the worst he has known since moving to the seaside town in the 1960s. He said many other residents had complained, again putting much of the blame for the traffic on the shopkeepers who "need persuading that humanity was not evolved in order to make motorised transport the new bane and Hitler of all our existences. I hate having to say this but we need tougher legislation. But, for many shopkeepers, this is Draconian. They think unless the car is allowed all the time then they're losing trade."

Mr Fowles urged the various councils to tackle the causes of the "very bad" traffic, especially



park-and-ride scheme but we feel it's inadequate [as] it's only during the grockle season."
"Grockle" is the less-than-

literary term used by Mr Fowles to describe tourists attracted to the town. It is a fairly common

use can be a little derogatory.

Mr Fowles said he simply wanted to open a debate, whereby people in the town could consider ways to alleviate the traffic problem. He cited examples of towns that had

in the July-to-September tourist word throughout the south- been pedestrianised, to the he said. Mr Lewis added that season. He added: "There's a west of England, although its eventual material advantage of the council does talk to the shopkeepers. But Lyme Regis deputy town clerk Mike Lewis said there were no specific plans to tackle the author's concerns. "There has been a

Highways Authority about general matters, but discusses

And Mr Lewis evidently felt that, as well as Mr Fowler's suggestion to ban cars implicit criticism of tourists, altogether but it got no further," his use of the term "grockle" to implicit criticism of tourists,

describe them might portray a Lyme Regis that was less than kcoming, "I know that 'grockle' is a slang term, but I don't think that is quite right," he said yesterday. "I prefer to think of them as visitors or guests, rather than 'grockles'."

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DELL HOUSE, KEYBOARD

### Police angered by inefficiency claims patrols, the report found. But al chairman of the Police Fed-it did praise some police prac-eration, which represents beat Superintendents' Association,

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

The police reacted angrily yesterday to a leaked report that claims many bobbies on the beat are mefficient, badly briefed and

The consultative draft report of the Audit Commission, the public-spending watchdog, calls for an overhaul of the patrol system, which costs £4bn a year. It says the police cannot meet public expectations because the workload is increasing faster than they can cope with it and that much of the management is misguided and inefficient. This has resulted in

Criticism that police officers on

foot patrols are inexperienced

is incvitable because most beat

constables are young and still

learning the job, writes Jason

Many experienced officers

believe the reports of yesterday's

leaked Audit Commission study

have identified some of the

weaknesses in the system but

have underplayed the advances.
All officers spend the first two

years of their probation work-

ing on patrol – usually on eight-

hour shifts - when they are not

in training school or on a spe-cialist unit.

Once they have completed

their probation period they can

intelligence-driven patrolling still has a key role to play". Yesterday the police said that there had been a seacers in recent years and many benefits of patrolling were impossible to quantify.

tices and concluded that "di-

ter John Major promised to pay for an extra 5.000 beat officers. The report calculates that only

The report comes shortly af-

out on patrol at any one time. officers of all ranks challenged the findings of the commission. Fred Broughton, nation-

Youth dominates the beat

join a specialist unit, such as the

CID or traffic division. It usu-

ally takes at least an extra three

years to gain further training and qualifications before they can move. A decade ago, offi-

cers would be expected to serve much longer in uniform before

"The vast majority of officers

on the beat are now made up of

the young and relatively mex-perienced," one policeman said. This change, some officers be-lieve, has led to a lowering of

the priority being given to pa-

To help redress this, the po-

lice service is increasingly forc-

ing officers to go back on

troi constables.

they could leave the beat.

officers, said: "A visible uniformed presence on the streets provides an effective deterrent against crime, a strong link with the community and a high survey found two out of five officers on patrol had made an arrest during their most recent period of duty, suggesting that their work was efficient.

Jim Sharples, head of the Association of Chief Police Offi-5 per cent of police strength is cers, said: " ... It is wrong to suggest that in general pa-Yesterday representatives of trolling officers are neither directed nor adequately briefed for their role."

Superintendent Brian Mac-

general patrol for a year before

they can take up another spe-

cialist role. There is a much

smaller group of officers who

through either choice, or lack of ability, spend their career

In the first two years, the pro-bationary, officer will learn

how to carry out searches and

how the law works, but most of

all how to deal with people. Patrols are increasingly giv-

en specific tasks and targets.

Kent has piloted the greater use

of intelligence-led patrolling, in

which constables are sent to

areas where their superiors

believe crimes are most likely to

walking the beat.

be committed.

constables, describes "working a beat" as "close to the bottom rung of the police status ladder' says officers are inefficiently deployed in fire-fighting mode, rushing from one incident to another. It queries whether even trebling the resources available for patrol would make any signifi-

said: "It's difficult to quantify the

value of the patrolling officer.

What's undeniable is that the

public, particularly the vulner-

able, such as the old, get

Nevertheless, the report,

which has been sent to all chief

the patrolling officer."

cant impression on crime. The report, which is likely to be significantly changed before it is published in April, appears to call into question police claims to be giving priority to putting officers on the beat. One paragraph says that while police forces claim that 55

per cent of their strength is "the frontline, public face of the police", in practice only 5 per cent of police strength is out on patrol at any one time.

Briefings were said to have been prepared inadequately: only 5 per cent of officers said they were systematically debriefed by their sergeants.

The report highlights the in-satiable public demand on police time. It says police strength is up 8 per cent since 1980 but since then the number of 999 calls each officer has had to handle has risen by 160 per cent.

### Tube faces more strikes after vote

More strikes on London Un-derground appeared inevitable last night after members of the RMT rail union voted in favour of industrial action, writes

Christian Wolmar. The RMT executive meets today to decide on what action to take - which is likely to be 24hour or 48-hour strikes, for which seven days' notice must be given. Previous strikes by RMT

members have been disruptive, with stations being closed and cancellations of some trains. But, unlike their Aslef counterparts who represent drivers, they were unable to paralyse the network in three days of action taken earlier this year. Aslef has accepted the 3 per cent offer from London Underground,

The move for strike action

only about half the members but RMT is seeking 6 per cent.

voted. A London Transport spokesman said that about 70 per cent of RMT's members either did not vote in the ballot or voted against taking action which meant "it was not a mandate for industrial action". However, Wilf Proudfoot,

RMT's assistant secretary, said: "The ballot is the third time that

was by 1,735 to 969 votes but RMT members have voted for industrial action in this dispute, and I hope this time mannent get the message that they have to negotiate seriously." The executive committee had postponed a decision on further industrial action to consult with members, but added that there was "no doubt after today's vote they will be calling on members to take action".

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# Turbo-charged Heseltine plays it for laughs

up. Yesterday was the real thing - Michael Heseltine's second appearance at the despatch box as Deputy Prime Minister, standing in for an absent John Major, but the first on which he clashed with his Labour counterpart John

While Mr Prescott got the slightly bigger cheer as he took his seat, Tory MPs lapped up 15 minutes of turbo-charged Hescltime in the sort of performance designed to avoid the bothersome business of properly answering the questions.

Prescott extended the conventional welcome to Mr Heseltine as he launched into a reference

☐ Deputy Prime Minister stands in for Major ☐ Prescott attacks waste of public money ☐ Army undermanning admitted Questions, "It has been a long time, but you have finally made it." That got the Government front bench laughing along with Labour MPs. In a later slip of

the tongue Betty Boothroyd, the

Commons Speaker, even managed to address him as Prime Minister as the hot air rose. But Mr Prescott was pursu-

ing a serious point, the public money wasted on the poll tax and the new NHS bureaucracy. and the cost of creating and running the Deputy Prime Minis-Opening the sparring, Mr ter's new empire. Mr Heseltine

on his first Prime Minister's to the appointment of Peter Mandelson, MP for Hartlepool, to the deputy leader's

> Inside Parliament

> > **Patricia** Wynn Davies

team. "The Prime Minister has trusted me to come alone. You have had a minder appointed to look after you," he mocked.

the League Against Cruel Sports, was one such.

Supplying the answer himself, Mr Prescott said: "On the Government's own figures, £14bn was wasted on the poll tax, £1bn was wasted on the new bureaucracy in the health service. and the Government's press and publicity machine cost the taxpayer £m every working day."
To be fair to Mr Heseltine,

there was genuine hilarity at some of the asides, however predictable. If the BBC went on showing the Opposition in the light they did in last week's debate on the prison service it would not be Alastair Campbell [Tony Blair's press secretary] who brought up a complaint but But the fact that the knock-

about reached such excitable levels did not help in the matter of answering questions. Amid the hubbub Margaret Hodge, Labour MP for Barking, was trying to ask Mr Heseltine about the £80,000 computerised desktop diary he had installed in his office, as revealed by the Independent, at public expense. "I have spent no money on a desk," thundered the Deputy Prime Minister as some MPs pondered the likely provenance

of such a purchas It is little wonder that so perhaps the House of Lords,

many Tory MPs left the chamber hoping that the Prime Minister would soon be back, Mr Prescott later wrote to his op-

Ps wanting straight an-swers to straight requests need have done no more than look in at defence questions where ministers frankly admitted that the armed forces were undermanned and needed to be supplemented with 400 Gurkhas earmarked for redundancy and that attempts to sell redundant MoD housing had been a failure: or

ment minister Lord Henley declared that the actual number of unemployed people manag-ing to secure Training for Work was "not important" .

John Reid, a Labour defence spokesman, told Nicholas Soames, the minister for the armed forces, that the Ministry of Defence had "some explaining to do" on its redundancy programme.

According to defence sources, the recruitment gap could be up to 4,000 soldiers. Dr Reid said that the MoD had spent £500m on making more than 40,000 soliders redundant,

we're short of soldiers, we have to spend £100m recruiting

ackling a yet further tricky issue, James Arbuthnot, the defence procurement minister, was leaving his options open as he insisted that the Government was "obliged" to consider leasing Armerican F-16 aircraft as a cheaper option than upgrading RAF Tornados, as recommended by David Hart, the controversial confident, for want of more precise description, of Michael Portillo, Secretary of State for Defence, and Malcolin Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary.

# Nolan MPs split on party lines

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

The committee of MPs considering the Nolan recommendations on disclosing outside carnings is deeply split along party lines, with Tory opposition threatening to rule out an agreed formula for implementation prior to a Commons debate in less than a fortnight.

Taking their cue from Tory backbench opinion, which MPs say is hardening against disclosure, Conservative members of the select committee have been holding out against the change in a series of fraught meetings over the last week. An inconclusive meeting last night will be followed by another marathon session tonight.

Labour members want full disclosure of annual income from outside interests, or disclosure within monetary bands, as recommended by Lord Nolan's Committee on Standards in Public Life.

But the gap between Labour and the Tory members has proved so difficult to bridge that the committee's report could end up containing up to six options for MPs to vote on - ranging from full disclosure to no disclosure - when it comes to the House before the end of the

session early next month. The debate was promised in July, when a majority of MPs on more time to consider the nounced the request as delib-

erate foot-dragging. Among fall-back suggestions canvassed among Tories is that declarations of outside income should be made in confidence to the independent Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards recommended by Lord Nolan without being publicly recorded. Another suggestion is a simplified banding system to allow MPs to record earnings above or below that figure.

The Tories had hoped to win the argument against disclosure by agreeing with Labour that the range of banned outside activities should be widened to include single-client consultancies as well as multiple-client consultancies as recommended by Noian. That would rule out any need to declare carnings, provided the relevant contracts were registered with the Commons. But Labour were understood to have ruled such a deal out last night.

A key figure in resolving the row will be the committee chairman, Tony Newton, Leader of the House. He will want a unanimous final report to put before the House, and his own report may sway Tory members.

A failure to reach agreement would be a blow to John Major who signalled a determination to clean up public life by setting up Lord Nolan's the select committee asked for committee in the wake of the "cash for questions" affair.



Homeless protest: More than 1,000 people took part in a demonstration at Westminster against government proposals for the homeless yesterday organised by Shelter. The charity is angry at plans to remove the dutty of town halfs to provide a permanent home and is urging MPs to vote against the proposals. The crowd was addressed by the Arcitistics of Wales, the Most Reversing Abovit Reas Johnson Photograph: Edward Sykes Photograph: Edward Sykes | at York University.

#### MP to press for tax cuts

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

The British defence attaché in Barbados is on the list of cuts to be urged on the Government today by John Townend, the chairman of the Tory backbench finance committee, to pay for £7bn in tax cuts.

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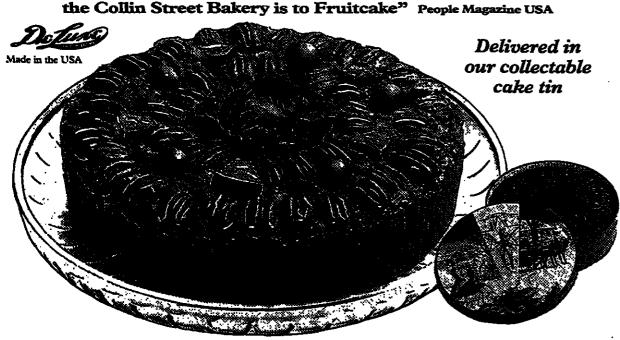
It follows the warning last night by William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, to the committee that there would be tough decisions on spending cuts announced in the Budget. Senior Tory backbenchers emerged from the meeting convinced that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is planning to cut at least 1p in the pound off the basic rate, in a package of tax cuts worth be-tween £3bn and £4bn.

Mr Waldegrave gave an upbeat assessment of the economy, in spite of doubts, reported in the Independent yesterday, by the Chancellor's economic advisers about the wisdom of tax

Mr Townend, a member of the Thatcherite 92 Group, will also question the need to keep the British Army in Germany. And he will criticise the generosity of the social security system for unmarried mothers. His agenda for a further £7bn cut in taxes next year will be unveiled at a meeting of the Conservative Students Association

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news

# Pollution 'killing Scottish rivers'

Scotland Correspondent

Scotland's rivers, a vital natural resource for multi-million pound industries including tourism, whisky and fishing, are being destroyed by pollution and building developments, the World Wide Fund for Nature warned yesterday.

The environmental group said "wild" rivers were dying out north of the border as discharges of fertilisers and in-dustrial pollution increased.

Salmon and trout were in decline and leisure pursuits such as fishing and rafting which generate millions of pounds a year were at risk, a report re-leased in Edinburgh said. The future of "natural" industries such as whisky distilling, which depend on clean natural water sources, was also threatened.

WWF Scotland said the deforestation of river banks, the construction of new flood con-Current concern: The river Almond in East Calder, with foam created by household and industrial detergents. Photograph: Jeremy Sutton Hibbert trol measures, hydro-electric dation taking place and we

meant that "the cherished image of Scottish rivers wild and free is largely an illusion".
Through its Wild Rivers cam-

paign, the organisation hopes to encourage landowners, industrialists and river users to work together to rebuild natural river environments. Simon Pepper, head of WWF Scotland, said the organisation would build on successful river regeneration schemes in France and the Netherlands to "heal this highly important and fragile re-source". Discussions with landowners and anglers had

already begun. Mr Pepper said: "From source to mouth, most of our rivers are subjected to a variety of unnatural influences. The problem is getting more serious year by year. There isn't a major single catastrophic event which we can point to but there is a long slow process of degra-

schemes and the increased use need to catch this before it goes of fertilisers and insecticides, too far. Scots are proud of their rivers. They are very important as a habitat for wildlife but also for people who get great satisfaction from them.

They must be saved." New laws might be needed to impose stricter environmental standards on farmers and industrialists, Mr Pepper said. "But in the short term we believe much can be achieved by people working together andowners, farmers, canoeists, anglers, builders. We want to draw attention to the need for these interests to combine their efforts to safeguard rivers."

Elizabeth Leighton, head of the Wild Rivers initiative, said: "All manner of people come to Scotland to enjoy the purity of the environment and all manner of products use that envirooment as a marketing tool. If we lose the purity of Scotland's rivers, we lose a lot more than a few stretches of water. We lose part of the essence of Scotland."

#### Salmonella fear hits M&S

Marks and Spencer confirmed yesterday that it had withdrawn thousands of sandwiches from stores after traces of salmonella were found at the supplier's

Routine checks at Telfer's of the store chain, revealed traces quickly as possible once the test of bacteria and the factory was results were through. closed last Wednesday while health officials investigated. Marks and Spencer said it would remain closed until it and

extra cleaning and staff were being given health checks. She added: "Traces of bacteria were found during the weekly quality assessment test and we told Marks and Spencer immediately and they withdrew sandwiches

The furn said that normal production would only resume when it was sure it was safe to do so. Final results of tests are expected this weekend.

Martin van Zwanenberg, Marks and Spencer's technical Northampton, which produces director, said that his company 400,000 sandwiches a week for and Telfer's had reacted as

"The sandwiches involved had obviously been sold but as a precaution we decided to-gether with Telfer's first of all Telfer's were satisfied there to withdraw all the sandwiches was no danger. we had on display that Telfer's A spokeswoman for Telfer's had made in the previous week said the factory was undergoing and also to close the factory while we investigated the cause of this one result.

"All subsequent results, by the way, have been clear. We and Telfer's reacted on the day the results came out. We acted immediately," he told BBC's One O'Clock News.

### THE NEW OKI OL600ex LASER QUALITY PRINTER.

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#### DAILY POEM

#### **Taxis**

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By EA Markham

And you know some things seem to be passed down through the family, like being in the army or claiming a favourite grandmother's illness: they say, once, the ruler of a country instead of killing people, like his father, made an enemy of the flowers; the smell upset him. When the country was rid of blooms he discovered what made him nauseous was new paint applied whenever he visited a school or factory.

But taxis were the things to bring tears to our eyes. When her first driver smiled and he had bad teeth, she felt cheated, like flying to America in a second class train with waitress service. The last time she cried in a taxi was the night a man wanted to share, and she said no.

EA Markham, along with Derek Walcott and Edward Lucie-Smith, is the most cosmopolitan of West Indian poets and described by Gavin Ewart as "a writer of great intelligence and vitality who can command a very powerful wry political comment." He was born in 1939 on the island of Montserrat and moved to Britain as a teenager. He has spent his working life as a lecturer in English and creative writing. Meanwhile six poetry collections have appeared, the latest of the latest of the state of the latest of th Misapprehensions, from which this poem is taken, is published tomorrow by Anvil at £7.95.

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fraud

targeted

The Government is considering changing the law to cut rocket-ing levels of mobile phone fraud and theft following recommendations from an indus-

try study group.

The four mobile network

companies already intend to in-

troduce a code of practice for

mobile phone dealers, who will

be obliged to make their best ef-

forts to check that any phone

brought to them for connection

to a network is not stolen. They

are not obliged to do so now. Anyone can legally capture

the phone number and elec-

tronic serial number transmit-

ted from a legitimate phone and program it into a stolen phone.

The owner of the legitimate

phone then bears the cost of

calls made on that number.

The proposals would make such

programming, called "rechip-ping" or "cloning", illegal. The group also proposes in-

creasing the maximum prison

sentence for "dishonestly mak-

ing calls with intent to avoid pay-

ment" to five years instead of two and making possession of

such equipment a crime.

Ian Taylor, the science and

technology minister, told Par-liament that the Government

will consider introducing such

measures. "The magnitude of

the problem means it is in-

cumbent on me and other min-

isters to regard this as a matter

of priority," he said later. The industry has been lobbying the

Government to outlaw rechip-

CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Correspondent

# his shame over lying to bankers

JOHN WILLCOCK Financial Correspondent

Kevin Maxwell told an Old Bailey court yesterday of his "feelings of embarrassment and even shame" about lying to bankers but said he only did so reluctantly, on his father's angry instructions. He agreed to lie to the Bank of Nova Scotia after a meeting with his father. Robert, in which the latter

banged the table with his fist.
"My feelings of embarrassment and even shame about that conduct [lying to the banks] are no different today in this public courtroom than I felt at the time. I do feel very bad about misleading at best and lying at worst to the bank."

In the days after his father's death at sea in November 1991. Kevin flew to Toronto for a personal meeting with Ced Ritchie, Bank of Nova Scotia's chief executive. He did so "because I knew we needed the support of our major relationship banks. The Bank of Nova Scotia could be one of the most single important banks that could change things dramatically for the group if they were willing to sup-port us in a time of difficulty".

He said: "I apologised to Ced Ritchie personally for my conduct in the summer and failing to be open and frank, for having misled the bank, because I said I needed his help and his support and couldn't come and ask him for his support with this

conduct hanging over my head." Kevin Maxwell, in his seventh day in the witness box, said he lied to the bank after the Maxwell Group committed a "technical default" on the conditions of its loan agreements. Ian and the former Maxwell fi-He said he phoned his father nancial adviser Larry Trachtabout it, adding: "My father's reaction was extremely short and sharp, he told me to get real. He said to have such a conversation on an open satellite line was disastrous, that I was breaking

Robert Maxwell told him

that if the default was discov-



ered he was to blame it on the group's investment bankers. Goldman Sachs. Kevin said he felt uncomfortable about this but obeyed his father's instructions to mislead the bank. "It's not a matter I am at all proud of," he said. "He was angry that was wasting his time on it. Earlier, he had accused the National Westminster Bank of "swiping" \$65m from Maxwell assets and claimed a senior executive had threatened him.

Kevin said that after his father's death he received a personal letter of condolence from John Melbourn, a senior executive with Nat West. But within days of this exchange of letters Mr Melbourn had refused to return shares in the Israeli company Teva which the bank held as a security until the proceeds of the sale of an American company Que arrived. Soon afterwards Mr Melbourn threatened to withdraw banking support for the Maxwell Group. Kevin said: "I realised the

bank held all the cards, they held all the shares as well as the money. I was at the mercy of John Melbourn at that point and a week later at another meeting he threatened mc". Kevin Maxwell, his brother

enberg deny conspiracy to defraud the pension funds by misusing £22m of Teva shares. Kevin Maxwell alone denies a similar charge of conspiring with his father to similarly misuse £100m worth of shares in another Israeli company, Scitex. The trial continues today.

Son tells of | Wannabees line up to be the right one



LOUISE JURY

For the casting director Lucinda Rayburn he was a bright one. Maybe even the right one. She could not pronounce Massimiliano Vitulan's name but he had bags of personality. "I thought Mass was great," she said. "And he's got a good body as well." Her fellow judges giggled. "I'm looking from a purely pro-fessional point of view," Ms

Theatre in Piccadilly, London, yesterday, 250 egos were jostling for a place in a revived and rejuvenated advertising campaign for Martini - the "any time, any place, anywhere" drink of the Seventies.

Each would-be star had a few seconds only to prove they were as right and bright as the jingle for the world's best-selling winebased drink. "I just thought it would be a complete giggle," said Annie Grantham, the first Rayburn said. At the Criterion

to stand before the judges and make a bid for fame with the words: "Of course I drink Martini. I know I look good and you know.I look good.

She was not recalled. Neither was Kenneth Norris, 26, who had travelled 13 hours through the night from the Mull of Kintyre to bare his tattoos. Learning he did stripograms, Ms Rayburn asked whether he was an introvert. "TII show you if you want," he said. The offer was de- ny's spokesman, said: "We want

clined. When the drinks company launched its hunt, it asked television viewers: "Are you the best looking person you know?" They were given a number to call for a chance to appear in than 34,000 people rang; 5,000 sent in a photograph, around 250 of the most visually pleas-

ing" were called for casting and 10 will be shortlisted. Chris Meredith, the compa-

"She's the best so far."

somebody who is classically very attractive, because Martini is a classic brand. And somebody who has that on-screen presence." After the first two hours, the list of maybes was far too long. "Be more brutal," Ms Rayburn said. But there was already at least one star in the making. "Wasn't she lovely? The girl in the hat?" she asked. referring to Sonya Lee, 26.

ping for almost two years. Every month 12,500 mobile phones are stolen, while criminals "clone" more than 4,000 phones using scanning equip-ment. Cloning rose by 500 per cent in the year to August. "Highly organised crime rings are using stolen and illegally reconnected handsets as a means of financing other activities such as drug trafficking," Jonathan Clark, chairman of the industry's Federation of Communications Services, said.

Mr Taylor said: "I don't want an industry which is one of the great British success stories to be undermined by fears that owning a mobile phone can leave you exposed to fraud."

# faces loss of all nursery schools

FRAN ABRAMS

**Education Correspondent** A county says it may have to

close all its nursery schools and classes if spending on education is not increased next year. In a report to be discussed by Warwickshire's education committee next week, Ed Wood, the education officer, said it would

need an extra £9.4m to keep provision as it is. Without the money, the authority would have to close its nine nursery schools, 24 nursery classes attached to primary schools and two parent centres. The county could be open to

legal challenge over cuts it would be forced to make to its youth service and provision for

children with special educa-tional needs, he added. Mr Wood has also proposed cuts of forced to cut £9m from its budfilm to sixth-forms' budgets, with the loss of between 40 and 60 teaching jobs.

The budget cuts could also mean the closure of schools' "out of hours" clubs and a cut

get. Last night, Mr Wood said Warwickshire had already been get in the current financial year. Despite this, the county was still spending 5 per cent more on education than the Government said it should.

"We are in a Catch-22 situation and we are facing a funding crisis. This list of cuts is

test school budgets," he said. Seamus Crowe, head of St Francis Middle School in Bedworth and a prominent member of the Fight Against Cuts in Education pressure group, Face, said: "This is horrendous. We want adequate funding and we want fair funding throughout the country."

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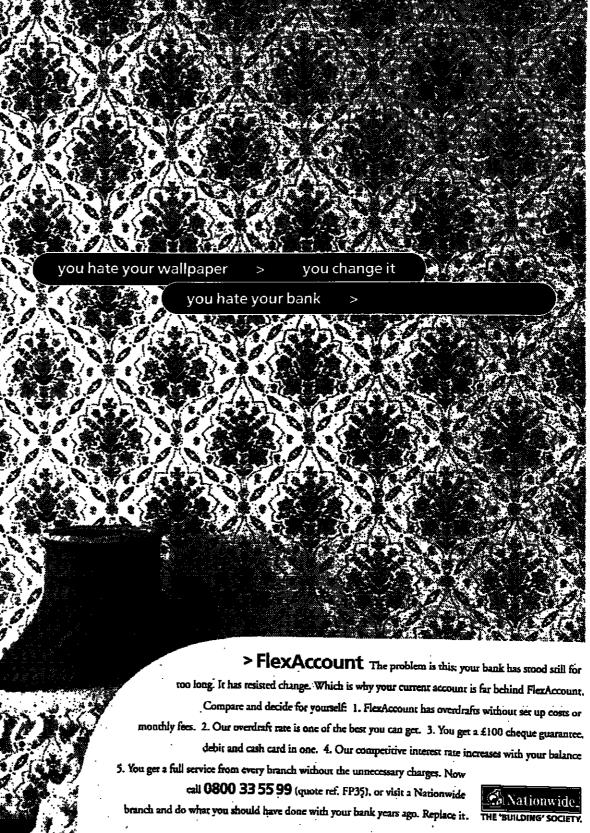
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Mobile fraud

UN Anniversary: World body gets another 50 years but China hits at big power interference

# Carry on policing, world tells UN

DAVID USBORNE New York ·

With three days of speeches, gala receptions and non-stop schmoozing behind them, world leaders yesterday gave the United Nations on its fiftieth birthday, the gift of continuing life for another 50 years.

With the last speakers due to take the podium last night. heads of state and government were due to adopt a seven-page declaration reaffirming the the goals of the UN's founding charter while pledging to launch it on a course of radical reform.

In their statement, the object of intense behind-closed-doors negotiation until almost the last moment, the leaders vowed to "give to the 21st century a UN equipped, financed and structured to serve effectively the peoples in whose name it was established".

As far it goes, the document will be a welcome conclusion for the Secretary-General, Bourros Boutros-Ghali, who at the beginning of the session dwelled on the UN's financial crisis and lamented the "sad news" that member states no longer regard the UN as a priority. No one advocated closing the UN and everyone credited it with keeping humanity free of global war since 1945.

But how genuine is the reaffirmation expressed by the leaders and how quickly they will be able to agree on improved financing and internal reforms, including the expansion of membership of the Security Council, remains to be seen. Neither the declaration nor any but a very few of the leaders' speeches offered any sign-

posts for the way forward. Some leaders voiced sceptipeace in his country, the Bosnian President, Aliia Izetbegovic, concluded with this thought on all of the "nice and noble words" delivered from the podium: "One of the ancient holy scripts says: 'Judge them ac-cording to their deeds.' Let us listen to what they are saying, but let us ask them what they are doing. As soon as they return home, unfortunately, they will continue their course. It is

up to us to stop them". his standard to an emergency

sembly early next year to reach some decisions. He was supported by John Major. A decision on whether to call such a session, which UN officials believe would help concentrate minds on resolving some of the issues, can be expected in the next few weeks.

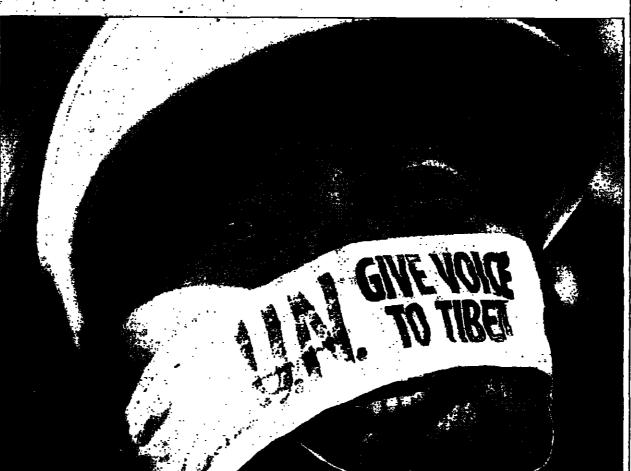
Unquestionably most pressing is ending the financial crisis, which means extracting the some \$1.30n (£0.80n) in unpaid dues from the United States, equivalent to more than the UN's regular budget for one year. This is not an exorbitant sum - less than what it costs to run the New York Police De-partment for 12 months - but such is the belligerence towards the UN in the US Congress that the prospect of Mr Boutros-Ghali ever seeing it remains dim.

Mr Clinton in his speech laid out a bargain: Deliver the reforms - slimming down the bureaucracy, reducing the share that the US is expected to pay into UN coffers, cutting back on the number of UN agencies and scaling back peace-keeping and I will prevail on Congress. It is not certain whether even then he could do such a thing. Many member states will demand that the deal be reversed: Give us the money, Washington, then we will reform.

Peace-keeping costs, which have exploded in recent years as the UN has been deployed to trouble spots worldwide such as Bosnia and Somalia, are already falling. Nato is taking over in the former Yugoslavia, the mandate in Rwanda is likely to expire at the year's end and the only countries left with an important UN presence will be

Cyprus and Angola.
Britain and other industrial cism about the prospects. In a nations, meanwhile, agree that speech otherwise devoted to many UN agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Or-ganisation, the International Labour Organisation and even Unesco, the Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in Paris, should be closed or

Killing these bodies, which provide nice jobs for foreign civil servants, will be resisted by many, however. Meanwhile, efforts to agree on who exactly should get new seats on the Security Council -Mr Boutros-Ghali has nailed Pakistan or India; Brazil or Argentina - have been mired alsession of the UN's General As-ready for months.



صكنا من الاعل

Voice of protest: A Tibetan chants during a demonstration outside the UN yesterday

# China raps US for 'interfering'

New York - President Jiang Zemin of China yesterday delivered a sharp and barely disguised jab in the direction of the United States, criticising "big powers" that seek to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, writes David Usborne.

Speaking at the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the United Nations only hours before summit talks with President Bill Clinton in New York last night, Mr Jiang also forcefully reaffirmed Peking's claim that Taiwan remains part of main-

Relations between the US and China took a sharp down-

an American citizen who was convicted of spying and stealing state secrets before being deported in August. "The peaceful reunification

of the two sides of the Taiwan straits is the unshakable will and determination of the entire Chinese people," Mr Jiang de-clared. In an American television interview this week, the President repeated that "one cannot rule out the military option" against Taiwan.

But in remarks that appeared directed at the US and its efforts in the past to link trade issues turn last spring when Mr Clin- with progress on human rights ton allowed the Taiwanese in China, Mr Jiang remarked: President, Lee Teng-hui, to "Certain big powers, often un-make a private visit to the US. der the cover of freedom',

Strains have also arisen be- 'democracy' and 'human rights', the Jiang-Clinton meeting, even cause of China's treatment of set out to encroach upon the the arrangements for it were dissidents, including Harry Wu, sovereignty of other countries, fraught with difficulties. The sovereignty of other countries, interfere in their internal affairs and undermine their national unity and ethnic harmony. This has become a principal cause for the intranquillity in the world

> Many passages in Mr Jiang's speech were unlikely to sit well with those seeking freedom for Tibet, including a group of Tibetan nationalists who have been staging a hunger strike out-side the UN building for the past week. Mr Jiang sought to condemn governments that, "deliberately ignore the colourworld and practise such hegecial system" on other nations. With expectations low for

White House refused an original request for a full-blown state reception in Washington for the Chinese leader, and suggested a lunch meeting on the fringes of the UN special

Finally the two sides agreed to meet yesterday in the New York Public Library. Then the venue had to be changed at the last moment to the Lincoln Center after Chinese officials found out that exhibits at the library included a handbill produced by Chinese students ful and diverse reality of the during the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests. It would be unwith such material inside.

#### IN BRIEF

Ross Perot stakes his claim

Sacramento – Hours ahead of the deadline, Ross Perot said his supporters had submitted Reform Party registrations for 95,000 people, enough to put the new party on California's 1996 presidential ballot. "We know it's done," the Texas 13 lilionaire said. A tally of registrations will not be known until 13 November. AP

#### US set to move embassy to Jerusalem

Washington — Key senators reached agreement on a bill requiring the US embassy in Israel to be moved to Jerusalem no later than 31 May, 1999. But Senate Republican leader, Bob Dole, and other sponsors of the bill agreed to allow President Bill Clinton to waive the move for a certain period on the grounds of US national security interests.

French police detain 13 'Muslim bombers' Paris — French police detained 13 people in raids on suspected Muslim extremists in Paris and its suburb of Corbeil-Essonne. The swoop was instigated by an investigating judge, Laurence Le Vert, who on Monday ordered two French men of North African origin to be jailed on suspicion of links to the Armed Islamic Group, an Algerian extremist organisation blamed for a wave of

Bosnian Serb war crimes trial postponed The Hagne — The first international war crimes trial since Nuremberg was postponed until next year after lawyers for Dusan Tadic. the Bosnian Serb defendant, said they needed more time and money to mount a proper defence. Michail Wladimiroff, representing Mr Tadic, who is accused of murder, rape and torture at the Omarska camp in north-west Bosnia, said the defence faced enormous problems in contacting key witnesses, many of whom live in war-torn areas, and would be unable to come to The Hague before next May.

#### Breathing space for Chirac

Paris — The state prosecutor will postpone a decision on whether to prosecute President Jacques Chirac over a rented flat pending a ruling on the issue by an administrative court. The court is due to decide next month whether to authorise a separate request to sue Mr Chirac for compensation over the purchase of his rented flat by a company partly owned by the city of Paris when he

#### North Korean 'spies' fire on police

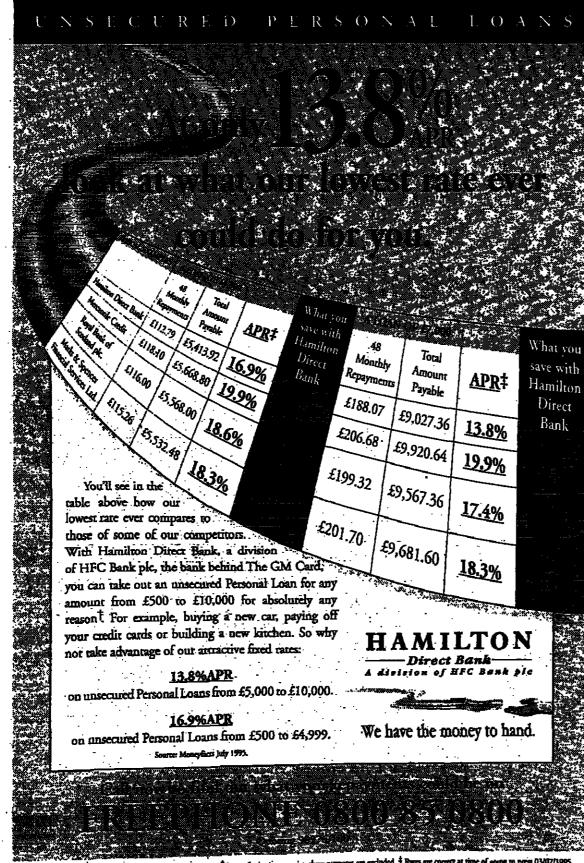
Seoul - Two men described as North Korean spies exchanged gunfire with South Korean forces in the central town of Puyo. A police officer was killed and one of the alleged infiltrators was captured after being shot in the leg. The other fled into nearby hills, pursued by thousands of troops supported by helicopters

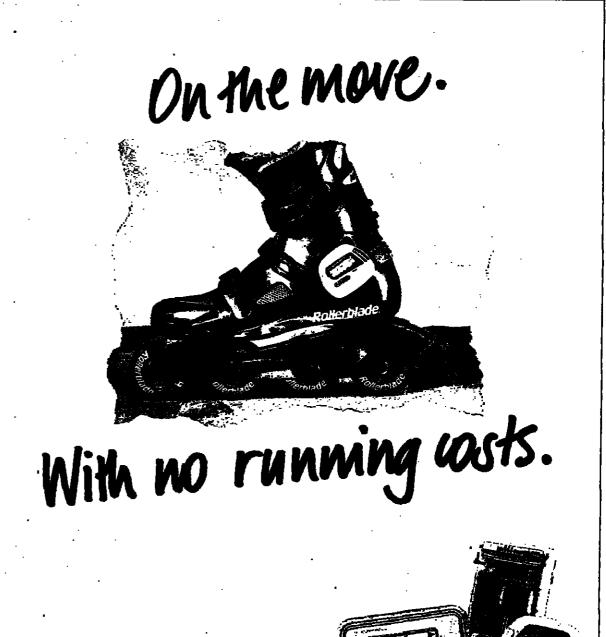
#### Kingcard is a credit to Heartbreak Hotel

Memphis — Fans of the "King" can now check out of Heartbreak Hotel using the new Elvis Presley credit card. The only credit card officially approved by the estate of the late superstar features three images of Elvis from a 1968 television special and his 1969 Las



monic acts as imposing one's so- acceptable for Mr Jiang, they de- Yasser's baby: Soha Arafat, wife of the PLO leader, cided, to grace the building shows off her daughter, Zahwa, in Gaza city during the the UN fiftieth birthday celebrations





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Herd instinct: Klaus Riechert, a farmer from a village near Hamburg, walks his geese on a them in shape. Most will end as roasts on St Martin's Day (11 November) or at Christmas

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very fast and great fun to drive". The low weight of 675kg benefits braking, handling and steering response. The adjustable driver's seat gives firm vet comfortable support and the minimalist instrumentation displays

immediate information. Visually the car is stunning, the curvaceous lines set off by unique five-spoke alloy wheels. The light weight and aerodynamic shape makes the Elise a "green" machine, cutting down on fuel consumption and thus carbon dioxide

The 1795cc 4-cylinder fuel-injected engine delivers a top speed of around 120mph and the Elise, worth approximately £20,000, comes with catalytic converter, engine immobiliser, cloth trim and black vinyl hood.

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at London's Earls Court. As well as receiving the keys to a Lotus Elise, our competition winner will also get one year's free insurance provided by Norwich Union Club Insurance. This service offers a 24-hour Clubline which, should you have an accident, connects you to a dedicated Club Incident Manager who will take immediate care of the problem.

To be in with a chance of winning our prize you must collect six differently numbered tokens from the 14 we are printing in the Independent and the Independent on Sunday. At least one token must come from the Independent on Sunday. We printed an entry form in last Friday's Independent and today we are giving you Token 11. We will reprint the entry form at the end of the competition.

Rules as previously published. For previously published tokens or an entry form send an SAE to: The Independent/Lotus Elise, PO Box 88, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 1TX. State the amount of tokens you require (only 4 per application). Please mark clearly on your envelope, Token Request or Entry Form. If you need both, please send separate SAE's. Requests must be received by first post 6 November 1995.

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# Santer backs down over French tests

SARAH HELM Strasbourg.

In a remarkable retreat on two flanks, the European Commission and the European Parliament yesterday backed away from a confrontation with France over the the issue of French nuclear tests.

Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, told the Pariament in Strasbourg that in the light of new information from Paris, the Commission believed that the tests were not dangerous and that there was no reason to take legal action under the Euratom Treaty.

After addressing the Parlia-ment for less than 10 minutes, Mr Santer announced with confidence: "The tests in French Polynesia do not present any perceptible risk of significant exposure [to radiation] for the vorkers or the population."

Mr Santer's statement came nours after President Jacques Chirac said in New York that France will carry out six, instead of eight, nuclear tests. There appeared to be little doubt in Strasbourg yesterday that Mr Chirac's decision to reduce the number of tests was linked to an inderstanding with Brussels that Mr Santer would persuade the Commission to back away

from legal action. The Parliament, which had demanded action from Mr Santer to stop the tests, yesterday appeared suddenly willing to accept the Commission's decision, and dropped threats to censure the Commission for failing to take Paris to task. Pauline Green, leader of the Socialist group, asked what reason there was to believe the French data. been shown the new information handed to the Commission. Last night, MEPs met to con-

a fight. Only the Greens voiced outrage, accusing the Commission of evading responsibility and lacking credibility.

Yesterday's decisions represent a victory for Mr Chirac, who has seen off the threat of embarrassing legal action in the European Court of Justice.

Taking a stance which can only encourage Britain, a powerful member state has shown two European institutions that it cannot be pushed around. French lobbying has been in-tense, and France's two commissioners have fought hard against any legal challenge.

For the anti-nuclear lobby, the outcome was a serious defeat. And for the two European institutions, the episode has almost certainly caused lasting ge. What the public will re-

the short and superficial nature of Mr Santer's presentation, there is little reason to believe public doubts about the tests

will have been eased. Mr Santer made no attempt to explain why the new infor-mation produced by Paris after two tests have been carried out

already might be wholly reliable.
"We have no reason to believe the Commission's evaluation of risk, based solely on information provided by the very French authorities who are carrying out the tests and who have systematically covered up relevant data for years," said Undine von Blottnitz, a

Green spokesworm Mr Santer avoided criticising France for failing to provide the information to the Commission

row is weeks of posturing in before the first two tests. Arti-de 34 of the Euratom Treaty cle 34 of the Euratom Treaty says that in the case of a "particularly dangerous experiment, the Commission ought to give an opinion on health and safety before the experiment begins.

The Commission's climbdown appears in the end to have been brought about as much by political considerations and by the incompetence of its staff as

by an analysis of the data.

Mr Santer did not want to force, a confrontation with France at a time when many important political negotiations are under way. At the same time, according to several Commission sources, it was the incompetence of Ritt Bjerregaard, the Environment Commissioner, which made it difficult for the Commission to

#### Brussels puts Dane in doghouse to be published could not have

a bad day for the anti-nuclear lobby in Europe it was a an even worse day for Ritt Bjerregaard, writes Sara Helm.

Ms Bjerregaard, the European Union's eccentric Danish Environment Commissioner, yesterday lost her campaign to end French nuclear tests; she was scorned in the Parliament, ridiculed in the press and patronised by the President of the Commission, Jacques Santer.

Ms Bjerregaard could have consoled herself that her spicy newbook-The Commissioner's Diary - might now become a bestseller in Brussels. But she also learned yesterday that she will see none of the money. "I have heard from President San-She said the Parliament had not ter that there are rules that one may not receive fees. I intendto follow them," she said at a

Bierregaard: Author of a icy new book aard's private meetings with European leaders. It accuses President Jacques Chirac of trying to be a "strong man". At the press conference she had Other commissioners are sniped at, details of discussions revealed. Ms Bjerregaard, how-

come at a worse time for Ms Bjerregaard or the anti-nuclear campaign. The environment commissioner has been lobbying Mr Santer to take stronger action against France over nuclear tests. She promised Parliament she would campaign for an end to the tests. Mr Santer, who was against taking action, has been trying to pull Ms Bjerregaard into line. Already under attack for presenting a poorly argued case, this further undermined her

When Mr Santer told Parliament yesterday that France was off the hook, Ms Bjerregaard was obliged to watch in silence. to sit beside Mr Santer like a naughty schoolgirl. The press were not interested in her antinuclear campaign. They wanted to know only what secrets she would publish in the next seri-



RUPERT CORNWELL Washington and REUTER

British aid convoys in central Bosnia have been spanended because it is feared that foreign Islamic fighters are hunting down Britons, a United Nations refugee official said yesterday.

dent on Sunday when two Norwegian aid workers were held up at gunpoint by two men and threatened with execution.

The men let the Norwegians go when they discovered that they were not British, said Kris Janowski, spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

One of the gummen spoke Arabic and UN officials believe that he may be a mujahedin fighter – a volunteer from an Islamic country who joined the Muslim-led government's fight

ngainst Serb separatists.
The UN has linked the incident to the killing of a muja-hedin fighter by a British UN soldier two weeks ago.

The soldier was guarding an armoured troop carrier during a reconnaissance patrol near Bugojno and opened fire when he believed that the man was about to shoot him, a UN snokesman said\_

They seem to have been. looking for Britons. They may be carrying a grudge. It is alarming," Mr Janowski said.

A protest had been filed with the government, he added. The convoys affected are those to the government enclave of Tuzia. Mr Janowski said he expected them to start again in the next few days.

The reports underscore the continuing dangers a week be-fore the Bosnia peace talks open in Ohio.

President Alija Izetbegovic yesterday raised the stakes by insisting that his Muslim-led govemment was winning the war, and that he would not accept the division of his country "in whatever packaging it may be served"

He told the UN that partition would simply lead to a restart of the fighting.

And if the talks were successful, he demanded that the international community deny reconstruction assistance to any party which refused to respect human rights.
The Bosnian leader was

Franio Tudiman of Croatia prepared to meet President Bill ton in a last rou lateral summitry before the two

leaders join President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia for negotiations at an air base in Dayton. There are also growing signs of difficulties in organising the Nato-led force that will police

any deal. Tomorrow the United States and Russian defence ministers meet at the Pentagon to work out a formula for Russia to take part in the force, following the failure of Mr Clinton and Pres-

ident Boris Yeltsin to do so at their brief summit near New York on Monday. Clinton is mounting congressional and public unease over plans to send 20,000 US troops

to Bosnia to help police a set-

in favour of US participation. But that figure turns into a two-to-one majority against on

tlement. A poll conducted for

the USA Today newspaper in-

dicated a narrow 50-44 margin

the assumption that the force speaking as he and President will take some casualties. Overwhelmingly the public believes that Mr Clinton should secure proval from Congr fore sending soldiers, something the White House says it is not bound to do. The Republican-dominated

Congress continues to demonstrate a desire to push into the domain of foreign policy.
Yesterday Mr Clinton re-

jected a suggestion by the Re-publican Bob Dole, the Senate majority leader, that President Milosevic should be barred from the peace talks, saying that it would undermine the peace

Senator Dole suggested last eck that the United States No less troublesome for Mr should not grant a visa to Mr Milosevic for next week's talks, accusing him of being "the mastermind of ethnic cleansing"

#### Subdued Tapie begins last-ditch appeal MARY DEJEVSKY

Bernard Tapie, the former foot-ball club chairman and politician whose name was a byword for the fast-talking, fast-living France of the Eighties, em-barked yesterday on a last-ditch attempt to save himself from the prison sentence that has longed seemed his destiny. Thinner than before and uncharacteristically restrained, he

arrived early at the courthouse in Douai to start his appeal against conviction for fixing a

football match. In May, Tapie was found guilty of organisms payments to two players from the Valenci-

ennes football club to ensure victory for his own team, Olympique Marseille, in a cru-cial tie. After a high-profile tri-al, during which he suffered betrayai by a former Marseille colleague, Jean-Pierre Vernès,

tenced to two years in prison, one to be suspended.

His appeal relies on a new version of events, according to which he admits for the first time meeting the Valenciennes trainer, but denies instigating any payments. Last week, Tapie threatened legal proceedings over a report in the sports newspaper, l'Equipe, which said on health grounds. In that Olympique Marseille under his chairmanship was a prison "terrified" him.

The threatened prison sentence seemed to take away some of his flamboyance and he has adopted a low-key approach to his appeal. But scepticism has been expressed about his new image. Some even questioned whether a hospital stay last week might not have been intended to save him from prison on health grounds. In a newspaper interview, Tapie said

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# Chirac promises to recognise Quebec

HUGH WINSOR

The Canadian Foreign Minister, Andre Ouellet, tried to play down the importance of a promise by President Jacques Chirac that France would recognise an independent Quebec if separatists gain a victory in next Monday's referendum.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the Cabinet yesterday, Mr Ouellet said he did not think Mr Chirac's comments during an interview in New York with CNN would have

much impact on the campaign.
"I think obviously some people in Quebec would like to see this as a major endorsement." he said. "If you look at what he said, it's not a major endorsement at all."

Questioned about the French President's timing, Mr Ouellet pointed out that Mr Chirac was only responding to a hy-pothetical question from a caller to CNN. "He said he would recognise a fact. And everyone would recognise the fact [if the separatists won]. It would change diplomatic

Separatist leaders in Quebec were quick to pounce on the Mr Chirac's comment. The Bloc Quebeçois leader, Lucien Bouchard, said that by confirming a commitment Mr Chirac had made to him a year ago, when the Quebec leader had visited Paris, he was supporting the separatists' argument that Quebec can survive

as an independent country. President Chirac told the interviewer that France would respect the outcome of the referendum vote but would not interfere in the referendum campaign. Mr Chirac had also given the Canadian Prime he attended the G-7 Summit in Halifax in June.

position during the 1980 refer-

endum campaign, when French agents were active in promot-

ing Quebeckers' dissent. Mr Chirac's earlier promis to Mr Bouchard was made while he was still only the may or of Paris. The Bloc Que becois leader had visited France seeking commitments because international recognition would be a crucial for a nascent independent Quebec.

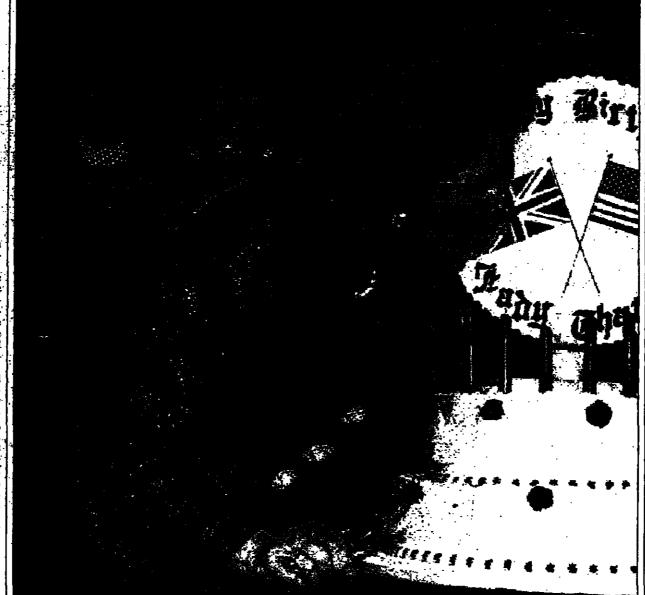
Mr Bouchard also visited Washington but had a frosty reception. While saying formally that Quebec's future is for Que-beckers to decide, US officials, including President Bill Clinton. have made it clear they wish Canada to be stable and united. Last week, the Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, went a step further, saying that Quebec would have a tough time negotiating trade deals.

For an independent Quebec, French recognition would have an important moral impact. But the separatists' first priority for formal recognition is the US. It will also be crucial for Quebec's industries to gain access to the North American Free Trade Agreement, an admission that the US and Canadian governments have

said will not be automatic. Quebec has also said it will apply to the World Trading Organisation and that it would like to become a partner in both Nato and Norad, the North America Air Defence pact.

Financial markets have continued to react to polls that place the "Yes" side with a narrow lead over the federalist side. On Monday, the Canadian dollar had lost a full cent against the US dollar, though yesterday the drop had slowed, levelling out at about 72.86 cents. Three new polls will be re-leased later this week which

Minister, Jean Chrétien, an could also have an impact, assurance that France would not especially on what are considmeddle in the referendum ered to be strategic voters who nit in Halifax in June. bargaining position with the This is in contrast to France's rest of Canada but who do not want to separate.



Back in the limelight: Lady Thatcher blowing out candles on a belated birthday cake Photograph: Mike Theiler/Reuter

# US right toasts Thatcher's 70th

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

What with Irish-American pickets across the street yelling "Thatcher murderer", flashlights popping and a mix of celebrities that included the US Speaker Newt Gingrich, Nancy Reagan and Barbara Walters, she might still have been the resident of Number 10. In fact it was just a belated 70th birthday thrash - but as far as the American right is concerned, Margaret Thatcher was, is, and will forever be Prime Minister, In Britain these days,

it was at Union Station here on Monday night.

Six hundred guests came to pay their devotions, paying \$1,000 (£600) a plate and \$15,000 a table for the privilege of being in the same room as the co-slayer of the Evil Empire. The Philip Morris tobacco group, "proud sponsors of this event", reportedly produced another \$1m, leaving the US-based Margaret Thatcher Foundation ahead on the night by \$2m or more.

But most of all they wanted to hear the Iron Lady, and through her to reach out to only by savaging her successor Ronald Reagan, her partner in tention; in the United States, saint of the New Republican her very presence sets conservative hearts atremble. And so confined by Alzheimer's disease

to his home in California. "Reagan and Thatcher", gushed Bar-bara Walters, are "names linked together for ever, like Rogers and Astaire." There was even a statue of them under construction in Tirana, Albania, Ms

Walters said, named simply

"The Liberators". Decked out in jewels and red chiffon, Nancy paid tribute from both the Reagans. "Dear Margaret", she said, "you have been so much to us in so many ways. You were and are America's finest friend. Ronnie and I will cherish your friendship

As she ended her speech, the make a toast in huge images flashed on two video screens on either side of the podium.

Mrs Thatcher replied in kind, describing the former presi-dent as "the second most important man", and speaking of her pride at being the smaller half of the Reagan-Thatcher relationship. It was "his decision to call the Soviet Union by its proper name, the evil empire," that helped "bring that evil

empire crashing down". And so the evening ended, drenched in nostalgia, a cross between the Lord Mayor's banquet and Oscars night in Hollywood. There was a musical interlude too, a medley of hits from Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, the bards of

#### WASHINGTON DAYS

# Bigger is better in the land where fat is a felonious issue

convicted cheque-forger, had been ordered by a court in Wichita, Kansas, to pay \$11,000 (nearly £7,000) in restitution. but said his 36-stone weight made it impossible for him to find a job and earn the money. Fine, said the judge, Mr Younkin could go on probation - on condition he lost weight. Alas, he was sighted once too often around town indulging in doughnuts, pizza and french fries. He was weighed in the scales of justice and found wanting. Instead of slimming down, he had added 20th. The law would have no mercy, and this time Mr Younkin was given Kansas' maximum term for

violating a probation agree-ment, three months in jail. His lawyers are appealing, on the grounds that weight and diet are personal matters which are not for a court to decide, and that therefore Mr Younkin's spell behind bars is "crue! and unusual punishment" in breach of the eighth amendment of the Constitution. More to the point, though, if obesity were a prison offence, America's over-crowded jails would long since

have come apart at the seams. For once the evidence of my own eyes and government statistics agree. Americans are getting fatter and fatter. A third of adults are overweight, and according to a new federal survey, 11 per cent of all children are too

- more than double the proportion 25 years ago. Taking their cue from their parents, chil-dren too exercise less, spend more time in front of the TV or computers and eat too much. And who is to blame them? The hardest thing to find in this country is a modest snack.

Take the American "sandwich", not to be confused with the dainty European concoction of the same name. A sandwich here is a monument to America's love for bigness - so thick you cannot get your month around it without sending part of the contents into your lap. Beg the man behind the deli bar they played Memory, but not looks at you as if you were some doughnuts didn't stretch to that.

Don't Cry For Me, Argentina. wimpish idiot. But sandwiches Even nostalgia has its limits. have nothing on the fast food

Spare a thought for Arthur Younkin, jailed this mouth for being too fat. Mr Younkin, a industry, which spends \$36bn (£22.8bn) a year on advertising ever vaster servings to an ever more corpulent population.

An item in the Washington Post last week provided some astonishing facts. Remember the curvy old bottle of Coca-Cola? It contained six and a half fluid ounces. The latest monstrosity from the 7-11 grocery chain is the Double Gulp, offering nearly 10 times as much, 64 ounces of coke, equivalent to 800 calories. The diameter of regular pizzas creeps steadily higher, now at around 12 inches. But nothing quite matches the 3lb porterhouse steaks offered by Morton's Steakhouse of Chicago. The Morton's in Washington claims to sell five to 10 a night, and everything gets caten. The reason for the onward

march of excess is said to be the concept of "value". But instead of offering more for the same price, why not the same for less? And the problem reaches the summit of the state. True, George Bush famously loathed broccoli, but even so was as thin as a rake. Not so the 42nd President. "We do fibres and stuff," Hillary Clinton once said in reply to a question about the family eating habits, and for formal entertaining she has replaced high calorie classical French with trendy Californian. But husband Bill, as he is the first to admit, seldom fails to warm

to a pile of junk food. So what happened to the get fit and slim craze? It was always strictly a middle- and upper-class phenomenon. Once upon a time when only the wealthy could afford a full plate, being fat meant being rich. The poor as a rule were thin. In today's US, it is the other way round. And even the stigma of obesity is fading. One poll has found that only 36 per cent of people feel that fat is unattractive. A decade ago, the figure was 55 per cent.

None of which answers Mr Younkin's problem: how to earn the money to pay off his debt. Apparently a New Jersey freak show offered him a job - but on condition he gained 200lb and signed a five-year contract. Even

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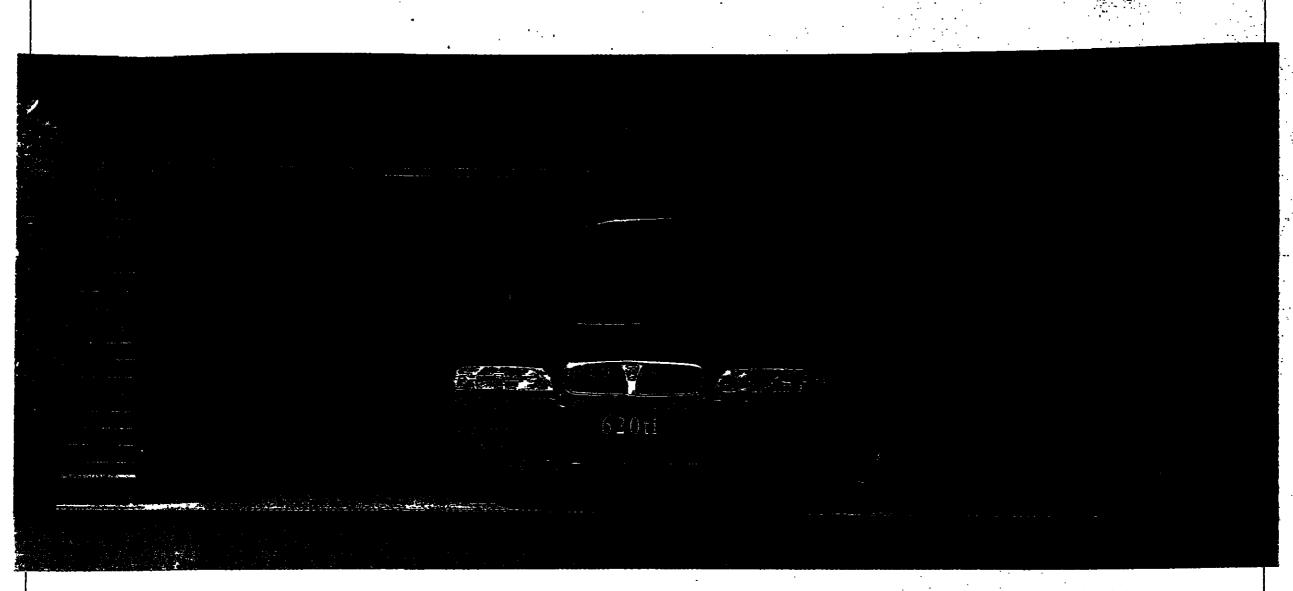
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"It's a scorcher." Guess who?



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#### Violence forces NZ to scrap Waitangi ceremony

DAVID BARBER Wellington

The New Zealand government yesterday scrapped the annual national-day celebrations at Waitangi after violent demonstrations by Maori extremists this year. The 6 February celebration, a public holiday, is supposed to mark the coming together of Maoris and Euroans, who signed the Treaty of Waitangi, the nation's founding document, in 1840

Chiefs of 46 Maori tribes signed the treaty, which ceded sovereignty to Queen Victoria in return for guaranteed "full, exclusive and undisturbed" possession of their lands. In recent years militant Maoris, campaigning under the slogan "The treaty is a fraud, have mounted increasingly angry protests at Waitangi Day celebrations, demanding return of land confiscated over the past 150 years. In 1990 a demonstrator threw a black T-shirt at the Queen, who was attending the cele-

brations during a royal tour. At this year's ceremonies protesters tried to set fire to the Treaty House, the country's most historic building, spat at the Governor-General, Dame Catherine Tizard, and trampled the New Zealand flag. The cel-



sness and has surren-

claims that the government had

caved in to Maori radicals.

dered to a few spitting, flag-stomping thugs at Waitangi by

shifting the ceremony to the se-

curity of the Governor-Gener-

al's mansion," said Mike

Moore, a former Labour prime

A Maori MP, Tau Henare,

"The government has shown

Maori anger: A warrior, Tame Iti, spitting at officials during this year's Waitangi ceremony

said: "The event has mana, the have the steel to return, what

حكنا من الاجل

event has spirituality. The treaty was signed at Waitangi. Waitwith its ongoing talk of part-nership with the Maoris." angi Day should be at Waitan-The announcement came 10 days before the Queen, who ar-Tokerau tribe, which hosts the rives in here on Monday, is due Waitangi celebrations, said the to sign legislation giving land tribe wanted government representatives there in February and cash compensation to the Tainui tribe for land confiscatso that it could apologise for this ed by the Crown in 1865. The year's demonstrations. "I Bill includes, for the first time, thought the government would a formal apology to Maoris.

# Menem sees UK visit as step closer to Falklands goal

Latin America Correspondent

The meeting between John Major and the Argentine President, Carlos Menem, on the fringes of the United Nations New York birthday party, has been billed in Buenos Aires as a giant leap and a "break-through" for Mr Menem.

Not only did he get his long-time wish - an invitation, though hardly a hearty one, and deliberately imprecise, to visit London - but the President sees every step closer to Britain as a step closer to gaining the Falk-land Islands peacefully.

"Menem's got his visa," said a headline in yesterday's daily Pagina 12. "Next year to Lon-don," said another paper, Clarin, which quoted Mr Menem as saying after the meeting that "we hope that some time in the not too distant future, sovereignty [over the is-lands] might be discussed."

Although London and Buenos Aires stressed sovereignty was neither on nor near the table in New York, most Falklanders believed it was most definitely on Mr Menem's mind. Many expressed fears that the Prime Minister may be worn down by Mr Menem's slick style and that he may head down "the appeasement road."

"We always believe there are hidden agendas at the highest level," said an islander and former councillor, Terry Peck. "I don't think Major's a very strong character but there's no question in our minds that Menem's a shrewd operator, and [Argentine Foreign Minister Guido] di Tella likewise.

They've played on our nerves for many years."
Mr Menem has asked Mr di Tella to "persuade" the Falklanders that Argentine sovereignty would be in their best interests, according to a gov-ernment source in Buenos Aires. One idea would be for joint sovereignty "until the islanders get used to the idea

and realise that we have their

best interests at heart," the

source said. Another idea, publicly acknowledged by Mr Menem and islanders' "compensation". which was last estimated at \$500,000 (£310,000) per head for the 2,000 islanders, in return for accepting Argentine sovereignty. The Falklanders have

rejected the idea. Sovereignty is not negotiable," Mr Peck said. "I'd never, ever, support joint flags and I think I can speak for 90 percent of islanders. There's no way people here would trust the month, they said.

Argentinians. But if there's oil in these waters, it's money that's going to talk. When oil is involved, 2,000 people don't count for one iota."

Mr Menem has been pushing aggressively for closer ties with Britain this year, particularly since his re-election to a second term in May. As far back as February, the daily Clarin said British Gas officials were pressuring Mr Major to invite Mr

Menem to London. The newspaper said that British Gas and the Argentine national oil company, YPF, had reached a "verbal" agreement on oil exploration in Falklands waters. Confirming the deal, Mr Menem said that "this delivers enormous possibilities and advances to Argentina in the conflict for the Malvinas [Falklands]." London and Buenos Aires played down the oil deal report at the time, but in September the two governments signed an agreement for oil

prospecting and exploration.
British diplomats said that Mr Major and Mr Menem had agreed also that experts from both countries should reach an agreement on regulating squid catches in the waters between the Falklands and Argentina. An initial meeting would be held in Buenos Aires next

# **Aum cult doctor admits** making sarin nerve gas

when protesters ran up a Maori

independence flag and police told the Prime Minister, Jim

Bolger, they could not guarantee his safety.

Yesterday the Deputy Prime Minister, Don McKinnon, said

next year's celebrations would

be held under strict security at Government House in Welling-

ton and be barred to protesters.

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Thousands of people, including several hundred journalists, gathered outside a Tokyo court yesterday as the first defendant in the subway nerve gas attack went on trial for murder. Tomomasa Nakagawa, a senior member of the Aum Shinri Kyo doomsday cult, admitted manufacturing the type of sarin

nerve gas used in the attack. The central trial, that of the Aum guru, Shoko Asahara, which is due to begin tomorrow, was thrown into doubt earlier in the week after his lawyer, Shoji Yokoyama, was involved in a car accident. Although he suffered only minor injuries, Mr Yokovama was ordered to spend two weeks in bed, provoking suspicions that the cult was trying to delay the trial. However, court officials confirmed the lawyer will attend, and that the most sensational trial in Japan's recent history

**Sex-change** boy can be a male

Bogota (Reuter) - A Colombian boy who underwent a sex change operation to become a female without his consent when he was seven years old has won the right to be identified as a male, judicial sources said

yesterday.
The boy, now aged 14, underwent the sex change and was treated with female hormones at the request of his parents in April 1987, six-and-a-half years after a dog destroyed his geni-tals. He rebelled against the idea of being changed into a woman, however, and filed a suit last year demanding that he be entitled to choose his own sexual identity and rid himself of the

girl's name his parents gave him.
The Constitutional Court ruled in the boy's favour on Monday and ordered that the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare assist him in any way possible to overcome his emas culation and identity crisis.

There was no word on whether doctors would seek to reverse the effects of the hormone treatment the boy received or close the artificial vagina surgeons created for him.



Several Ann members have already been sentenced on lesser indictments but yesterday's charges against Dr Nakagawa. Asahara's personal doctor, were the first to touch directly on the sarin killings. For the first time, prosecutors described in detail the events leading to the attack, which killed 11 people and injured thousands of others on 20

Dr Nakagawa, 32, pleaded not guilty to murder and attempted murder, but admitted manufacturing the deadly gas at the personal request of his er and former patient. "Asahara ordered the production of same in mid-March," he told the Tokyo District Court. "It is not incorrect to say that I produced the sarin, and sealed the liquid in plastic bags. I knew

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spiracy to release it." Asabara tried to plunge the central part of Tokyo into "utter turmoil" to head off police raids, the prosecutor, Tadahiko

sarin was a dangerous chemical,

but I was not aware of any con-

Miyazaki, told the three judges. The attack was aimed at police investigating the disappearance of a Tokyo man believed to have been abducted by Ann in February. The cult learned of police plans to raid its commune on the slopes of Mt Puii, and on the night of 19 March a team lead by Dr Nakagawa produced the liquid sarin in the labora-

Five kilograms were sealed into polythene bags which were carried onto subway trains the following morning. As the trains station, yards from the National Police Agency, government ministries and the Tokyo District Court, the bags were pierced with sharpened umbrellas.

Dr Nakagawa admitted strangling an Aum follower who was accused of treachery by Asahara, but said that he did so to release him from agony, when he was on the verge of death. Like Asahara, he faces the death penalty if convicted, although the trial could last two years.



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# Phil Sidey

As the Head of the BBC Network Production Centre at Birmingham, Phil Sidey was the man who converted Pebble Mill from a structural white elephant into a thriving source of daytime television. He was the first manager of Radio Leeds and played a leading role in establishing lively local broadcasting on a financial shoestring. He was a programme innovator with a spate of lively ideas and an abrasive tongue which tended to upset some of his colleagues. He was also an accomplished public speaker and a successful chairman of the

Royal Television Society. Sidey's first experience of broadcasting was in Austria immediately after the Second World War. As a sergeant in the Royal Artillery he was in charge of the Army Broadcasting Station at Klagenfurt for three years. He then had a variety of journalistic posts including three years with the Associated Press before joining the BBC's External News Service as a sub-editor in 1956. In 1963 he

transferred to Television News. becoming a Duty Editor in 1964. In 1966 Harold Wilson's Labour government decided to inaugurate eight experimental local radio stations. They were only to broadcast on VHF and their meagre annual revenue of £50,000 for each station had to cover staff salaries and all programme expenses. That sum was not to be a charge on either the BBC licence in-

come or the rates. It had to be found from other local sources. In 1967 Sidey was selected to manage the new local radio station at Leeds. His application was a surprise, for many thought that he had abandoned radio for television, and he had no connections with the north of England. But he was ambitious to run his own operation and he

feared he had made too many

enemies in television news ever

to reach its top position. Sidey had a great flair for publicity, including selfpublicity. In order to get the name of the experimental station regularly mentioned in the local press, albeit only on the sports page, he bought a greyhound and named it Radio Leeds. 24 Hours, the television magazine of which Sidev had been the news producer before moving to Leeds, sent a camera team to make a sequence about the programmes he planned to introduce. One was a record request show called Bring-a-Disc in which, because his library was limited, listeners had to bring their own records to be played. Sidey was filmed outside the door of Radio Leeds urging favourite discs. The film was shown on the day the station opened in June 1968.

Sidey recruited a team of Yorkshire journalists to provide a valuable service of local news. The naïve idea of the Government that provincial newspapers would gladly provide the new

experimental radio stations with copies of the local news they had gathered for their own use had

soon evaporated. One of his innovations was The Only BBC Programme the Money Can Buy. Listeners would telephone the studio and demand a favour, promising in exchange to pay a sum of money to any charity of their choice. This worried the authorities in Broadcasting House, who feared it might upset the central scheme that ensured fairness among charity appeals. Another was Teenage Week, presented entirely by schoolchildren, which caused Sidey to be dubbed "Fagin" and accused of

exploiting cheap child labour. In 1969 Sidey wrote a memorable article for the New Statesman, then influential with Harold Wilson's government.

on making community radio ef-



Acerbic wit: Sidey at Pebble Mill

fective. Frank Gillard, the former managing director of BBC Radio, said that Sidey's points convinced the entire Labour hierarchy of the success of the BBC's local radio experiment.

In a lively book, Hello, Mrs Butterfield . . . , published last year, Sidey also told the story of Radio Leeds. He described in detail the work of creating cheap local radio. "The rediscovery of radio and the infliction of new communication ideas on to the city of Leeds," he declared, was surrounded by so much good-humour and lively, not to say outrageous, behaviour, that the station soon became dubbed 'Radio Irreverent'."

outrageous, behaviour caused him trouble with the authorities at Broadcasting House on various occasions. After Radio Leeds he worked as the Deputy Editor of Nationwide until 1972. when he became Head of the Network Production Centre at Birmingham.

The Pebble Mill complex, newly opened but planned some 10 years earlier and built at a cost of £8m, has a marble entrance hall with a vast glass foyer which is reached via a footbridge. But by the Seventies visitors mostly came by car and had to park at the back of the building Sidey's appointment coincided with the Government's de-restriction of broadcasting hours and he seized the opportunity of putting Pebble Mill on the broadcasting map by offering to mount a live daily magazine from the idle space in the glass foyer. The London technicians had grave misgivings about the lighting and acoustics. But the difficulties were overcome, and Pebble Mill at One became the first important daily current affairs programme to be produced outside London for the BBC. Viewers were sur-

pating and studio guests arriving by parachute Sidey insisted that every new programme originating in Birmigham should carry the name Pebble Mill in its title. As his successor, David Waine, put it, He had a deep belief in the importance of regional broadcasting being independent of London and he pursued that belief with an acerbic and occasionally wounding wit." It was Sidey's defiant indepen-

prised to see elephants partici-

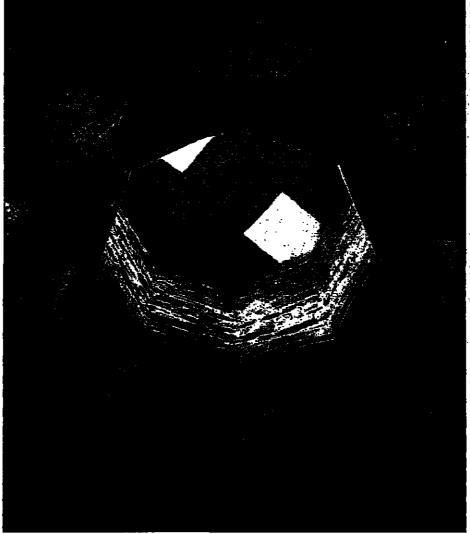
dence of London that led to his premature retirement in 1983. The Royal Television Society, founded in 1927, was originally a group of television enthusiasts intent on furthering this new scientific discovery. It consisted entirely of engineers. In 1978 Sidey was the first nontechnician to be elected chairman. With the vigorous support of Sir Huw Wheldon, who succeeded the Duke of Kent as President of the RTS in 1979, Sidev threw open the society's doors to programme people

and made it representative of the whole television industry. Sidey was chairman of the RTS for four years, twice the normal span. His speech on the retirement of Wheldon included a translation of Madame de Pompadour's, words "Après nous le déluge" as "After us that shower takes over.

Phil Sidey was a trim, athletic man who loved walking along the Pennine Way. He was on a walking tour of the Peak District at the time of his death.

Leonard Miall

Philip John Sidey, broadcaster. born London 11 January 1926; staff, BBC External Service News 1956-60, Television News 1963-67; Station Manager, Radio Leeds 1967-70; Deputy Editor, Nation-Production Centre, Pebble Mill, Birmingham 1972-83; Chairman, Royal Television Society 1978-82: President, Birmingham Press Club 1979-81; author of Hello, Mrs Butterfield . . . 1994; married 1951 Daphne Finn (two sons, one daughier): died Castle-ton, Derbyshire 15 October 1995.



#### The kitchen at Durham Cathedral, photographed by Swaan for his book The Monastic World (1974) Wim Swaan

Wim Swaan, the architect and architectural historian, was especially known in Britain as a photographer of genius, whose architect's eye brought new meaning to buildings and artefacts in every part of the world. Swaan was born in South Africa and studied architec-

ture at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg; he later also studied at Yale and Harvard. He practised in South Africa for a time, but most of his career as an architect was spent in the United States, and he became a US citizen in 1966. He specialised in hospital design, and was well known for his work on hospitals in New York and as far afield as Alaska. Latterly he was Director of Design at Architecture for Health, Science and Commerce, based in Tarrytown, New York; from

this post he retired in 1994.

Meanwhile, from 1960 on. Swaan provided photographs of exquisite quality for a long succession of books - many of them originally published in London who helped Swaan to convert a hobby into a second profession. They ranged from Japan, Tibet and Egypt to Western Europe. Swaan was an artist in all he did; but also architect, historian. architectural historian as well as topographer - and it was this rare combination of qualities high. I doubt if the Golden Al- New York City 1 October 1995. Hingley: Women are truly ready

which gave his work its special tar in Sant'Ambrogio in Milan I myself first worked with

has ever looked more beautiful than in his rendering of it. In the early 1980s I planned him when Elek asked me to write A History of Conville and Caius an introduction to The Gothic Cathedral (1969), which was otherwise wholly Swaan's work, College, and lured Swaan to Cambridge to take the photographs for it by planning Oxtext and photographs alike - one of five books he wrote as well as ford and Cambridge with Roger Highfield as my Oxford col-league and William Davies of illustrated. I was deeply impressed by his work, and suggested the collaboration which the Cambridge University Press as our publisher. Roger Higheventually emerged as The Monastic World (1974). To make field and I found the task of this a true collaboration. I prohelping Swaan to the remoter posed to accompany Swaan on corners of our two cities at once a small part of his monastic itinentertaining and exacting: we were rewarded by some weeks erary. He doubted my patience, of Swaan's delightful company but genially agreed to put it to the test. We started at Maria and by the exquisite quality of Laach in the Rhineland, waiting the result. two hours or more for the breeze Even then - though lively and enial and capable of a gruelling to calm down and allow him to take a now famous picture of the

day's work - he was not in good abbey framed in leaves. He had health; later he deteriorated further, and died still well under infinite patience and persistence, which made it possible for 70. Those of us who knew him well have lost a warm and de-His photographs in The lightful friend - but his work will live on, to inspire future Monastic World threw floods of generations of architectural hisreligious and their patrons; their raphers, and to illuminate bizarre, dramatic sites have nevabove all the borderline where er been revealed with so much history and art history meet. insight and panache as in his pictures of the hill-top site of Saint-Martin-de-Canigou and

**Christopher Brooke** Wim Swaan, architect and photographer: born Kokstad, South Africa 6 September 1927: died

#### The Rev Bernadette Hingley

Bernadette Hingley had a succession of public roles in the Eighties and Nineties, a period when the participation of women in society and in the churches was going through great transformation and was the subject of passionate conflict. She was a schoolteacher, a lay church worker, a dea-coness, a theological college teacher, a deacon and finally, last year, a priest, one of the first group of women in Britain to be

Africa, and in the Church of England was employed full-time and part-time, paid and unpaid. She was also a dedicated family person and friend. In all of these roles, public and private, she was a model for many. and often had a lasting influence in a very short time. In the Church she had the gift of taking jobs until then not associated with women and somehow transforming both the job and the perception of it, so that most people ended up thinking not only that it was right for a woman to do it but that the role had been enhanced in the process. In the four years since she was diagnosed as suffering from ovarian cancer, her way of facing suffering and death with realistic faith has been an extraordinary experience for those

who witnessed it She was the third daughter of Sir Paul Bryan DSO MC MP and Betty Bryan. She deeply loved the wild Yorkshire country, at Sawdon, near Scarborough, of her happy childhood and always kept strong links there. When she was 12 her mother became ill with manic depression which lasted eight vears till she died – a long agony that left a deep mark on Bernadette. She attended Duncombe Park and Benenden schools, studied Social Sciences at Bedford College, London University, and then went for two years' International Voluntary Service to a Roman Catholic convent school in

Bamenda, Cameroon. Africa was a turning-point. On 22 May 1994 she gave her first sermon after her ordination as priest, in St Luke's, Bristol Street, Birmingham, and looked back over 23 years. She said that in Africa she encountered the risen Christ - "I knew he was true and real and gave my life



to following him." Three years later, in 1974, she was on Iona "and understood that if I were a man I would be ordained" She studied at St John's Theological College, Nottingham. was a lay worker in Christ-church, Abingdon, and was encouraged to study a further year to become a deaconess.

That year, 1980-81, was spent as one of the first three female students at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, near Oxford. After ordination as a deaconess she became the first woman on the She worked as a volunteer in staff of Cuddesdon as it made the transition to a theological college with a mixed commu-nity. She was ordained deacon in 1988 and then finally priest, part of a group of women aged 25 to 71 and of all sorts of backgrounds: "There is a great gift in waiting," she said. "Women

are truly ready." When she was working parttime in the West Slough Team Ministry she met and married the Rev Robert Hingley, in 1983, and they had a remarkable partnership in ministry. The rest of Bernadette's life was spent in two tough inner-city parishes in Birmingham. Rob became vicar of St Paul's, Balsall Heath, in 1983, based in an ecumenical community centre. Their daughters, Elizabeth and Catherine, were born there, and for their mother opened up new relationships with the largely Asian and Afro-Caribbean local community Bernadette also slowly developed her ministry in networks of friends, chaplaincy work at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, tutoring women training for ordination and a range of

activities in Balsall Heath. year, Rob Hingley became vicar of St Luke's Church, Bristol Street, Birmingham, and Bernadette was licensed there too. Within months her cancer was diagnosed. Surgery and treatment helped, but in April this year the cancer appeared

again. In facing death, and the leaving of her husband, young children, father, sisters and many close friends, it was as if she poured herself out to others in alking frankly, listening, praying, writing letters making phone calls, saying goodbye. More needs to be told about this time in her life, and she had a great desire to write about it, which she continued to do into her last week. When I talked about someone else who was dying she pulled me up: "Not dying, living." She lived even more vibrantly in the face of

Bernadette Bryan, schoolteacher, priest born Sowerby Bridge. Yorkshire 26 September 1948; ordained deaconess 1981, deacon 1988, priest 1994; married 1983 Robert Hingley (two daughters); died Birmingham 20 October 1995.

#### **Gavin Ewart**



Gavin Ewart and I were a simultaneously precocious pair, writes David Gascoyne [further to the obituary by Anthony Thwaite, 24 October]. We were born in the same year in the middle of the First World War. We first met in 1933. Early that year Geoffrey Grigson had founded New Verse and becan to hold parties for his most promising contributors - among others Norman Cameron,

Kathleen Raine and Charles Madge (for me the most memorable) - in the garden of his house in Keats Grove, Hampstead

At that time Gavin Ewart was still at Wellington, where he became friends with the sympathetically subversive Esmond Romilly, nephew of Clementine Churchill, who absconded from the militaristic school soon after, to found the riot-rousing

magazine Out of Bounds, which he distributed to most of the public schools in Britain from a shabby old banger. Esmond found a base in a room above David Archer's Parton Street Bookshop, at that time a rendezvous for most poets and writers of a definitely left-wing tendency. This I mention be-cause of the significant fact that Gavin was seldom if ever to be seen there after he had left

Wellington and occasionally came up to London. Not that Gavin could for a moment have been suspected of harbouring Conservative learnings. He had continued to be entirely apolitical. He would satirise the Lefties of the day for the solemnly pompous earnestness of their dedication to the Party.

the archangel's view of the Mont Saint-Michel from on

him to realise his visions.

I have on my favourite shelf the paperback of Late Pickings

(1987) which Gavin Ewart inscribed for me. I wish I could quote from such superb examples of his maturest vein as "Making Love to Women", in which Auden, Spender, Isherwood and Yeats are cited in the 14 lines of what does not appear to be a sonnet. "Putney OAPs in 1983" comments compassionately on a scene of mindless violence that the media have

the end of the Thatcher decade "Advertising Elegiacs" recalls the early favourite celebrating "Love at the Office".

Sadly, the third part of this collection is devoted to obitnary verse of a characteristically mordant order. Saddest of all is "Shall I Die? (A Critical Exercise)". No doubt he will regard his own funeral with a straight-faced incipient

made increasingly popular since hilarity.

Dr Friedrich S. Brodnitz, died New York City 19 October, aged 96. Ear, nose and throat specialist who treated leading US opera singers, broadcasters and politicians. Pioneer of the "chewing method", a regime of exercises to strengthen and realign the throat muscles.

Charley Boswell, died Birmingham, Alabama 22 October. aged 78. Though blinded in action during Second World War, he learnt golf and founded the Boswell Celebrity Golf Classic.

#### DEATHS

BLACKBURN: On 21 October 1995, peacefully but suddenly in Kent and Canterbury Hospital, William Henry Blackburn, aged 77, of Irkham, formerly of Walton-upon-Thames, Beloved husband of the late Dhanlavam Maganlal Blackburn, much-loved father of Nigel and Jane and advived grandfather of Angus and William. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at the Parsh Clurch of St John, Ickham, near Canterbury. St John, Ickham, near Canterbury, Kent, on Friday 27 October at 2pm. Donations, if desired, to Northbourne Ward, & & C Hospital, c o J. Dilnot Smith & Son, Functal Directors, Bea-con Lane, Woodnesborough, Kent. HINGLEY: The Rev Bernadette (nee

HINGLEY: The Rev Bernadette (nee Bryan) aged 47, on 20 October at 5t Mary's Hospion, Birmingham, after a long and courageous fight against cancer. Beloved wife of the Rev Robert Hungley and mother of Elizabeth and Catherine. Third daughter of Sir Paul Bryan and the late Betty Bryan and sister to Elizabeth and Felicity Funeral Service at \$1 Luke's Church, Bristol Street, Birmingham, on Wednesday 1 November at 12 noon, Donations to the Bernadette Hingley Trud (to assist women seeking orles Trust (to assist women seeking or-dination). Details from Wheatley and Sons 0121-440 1020. A service of thanksgring will be held at All Samts Church. Brompton, near Scarbor-ough, Yorkshire, at a later date.

#### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Querch holds an investance of Backingtons Palent; and aftends a neargest of at Names's Palent; and aftends a neargest of at Names's Palent prices by the University Cultinger of Carls and Valent's to mask their Serguicentensary. The Princer of Wales wash the Description of the Vestera Central Hopead, Lindburght in President, the Princer's Secribid Fouth Business Treat, Immels the Ravad Bank of Scotland's new shown in authors of the University Central Central Conference Central Conference Central Conference Central Cen hunches the Rocal Bank of Scotland's new scheme in support of the trees at he's Andrean Square, I durburgh, you's the Dementia Resource Croine Paules, to mark the start of the Alberd Pur-hard Potential Institution in Scotlands and results Stockboun Crescent, Paules, to meet resulcent of the area who were sentime of last vest's flowly Princers Mangaret, Cabard's of last vest's flowly Princers Mangaret, Cabard's Alexandra's Roc-al Arme Natura Coops in the Great Bill of the Rocal Hospital (Techne, Lindon SW3 The Buke Rocal Hospital (Techne, Lindon SW3 The Buke

#### Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

LANNON: Suddenly, on Saturday 21 October 1995, Sarah Helen, beloved October 1995, Sarah Helen, beloved wife of Lawrence Dickinson and during mother of Alexandra and Siān, and a dearly loved daughter and sizer. Service at St Mary's Church, Merton Park, Wimbledon, on Friday 27 October at 12 noon. Flowers or donations, if preferred, to the National Childbarth Trust, eto F.W. Paine, 26 Crown Lane. Morden, Surrey SM4 5BL, 0181-542 1214.

Amouncements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Mensorial services, Vedding anniversaries. In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Elitor, The Independent. I Canada Square, Canary Waarf, Lundon E14 5DL, telephoned to 9171-293 2011 or faxed to 9171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.58 a line (VAT extra), OTHER Gazette atmonucements (notices, func-Gazette abnouncements (notices, func-tions, Forthcoming starringes, Marringes) start be submitted in writing (or faced) and are charged at £10 s line, VAT extra. They should be pecompanied by a daytime telephone number.

# of Glenomaus, President, St. Barthelamen's Hospital, accompanied by The Duchess of Glenerster, attends a connect in and of the hospital at the Barbern Connect Hall, London EC2. The Duch of Kent, Vice-Chairman, British Oversean Itade Barrd, opens the Eastern Consider Newspapers Print Centre, St. Andrews Business Newspapers Print Centre, St. Andrews, Northell, visits Lumreace Scott and Electro Monay Lad, Norwick, visit for the Centre of the Prints and Centre of the Centre of

Changing of the Guard

#### Birthdays Ex-King Michael of Romania, 74; Sir

Robert Andrew, former senior civil servant, 67; Lt-Gen Sir Henry Beverley, 60; Mr Henry Commager, his-torian, 93; Miss Juliet Fisher, dancer and teacher, 54; Mr Martin Gilbert, historian, 59; Mr Michael Lynagh, rugby player, 32; Sir David Mansel Lewis, Lord-Lieutenant of Dyfed, 68; Sir John Mayhew-Sanders, business consultant, 64; Mr Joe Mercer, former jockey, 61; Miss Helen Reddy, singer, 53; Sir George Russell, chair-man, Independent Television Com-mission, 60; Mr Alan Smith, chief executive, Test and County Cricket Board, 59: Mr Keith Taylor, cha Miss Galina Vishnevskaya, operatic soprano, 69; Dame Gillian Wagner, chairman, Court of Governors, Thomas Coram Foundation for Children, 68; Professor Donald Wiseman, Emeritus Professor of Assyriology, London University, 77.

#### Anniversaries

Macaulay, Baron Macaulay, histori-an and essayist, 1800; Johann Strauss the Younger, composer, 1825; Georges Bizer, composer, 1838; Pablo Ruiz Picasso, painter, 1881. Deaths: Geoffrey Chaucer, poet, 1400; Sir Charles Hallé (Carl Halle), conductor and pianist, 1895; Vincent Leonard Price, actor and writer, 1993. On this day: the English defeated the French at the Battle of Agincourt, 1415; the Charge of the Light Brigade took place, 1854; *Private Eye* was first published, 1961. Today is the reast Day of Saints Chrysanthus and Daria, Saints Crispin and Crispinian. The Forty Martyrs of Eng-land and Wales, Saints Pronto and George, St Gandentius of Brescia and St Richard Gwyn,

#### Lectures

National Gallery: Juliet Simpson, "Before impressionism (iv): Paris and the Flaneur's Gaze, modernity in 19th-century French painting", Ipm. Tate Gallery: Mark Gisbourne, "Being in Itself and for Itself: Sartre-ism at Mid Century", 1pm.

#### Luncheons The Queen

The Queen, with Princess Margaret, held a lunch party yesterday at Buck-ingham Palace. The guests were: Dame Just Dench; Mrs Par Preedy, Headblime 19th Dench, Mrs Par Pressy, richar-leacher, Knowle Church of England School, Solibult; Professor John Bourne, Director, In-stitute for Animal Health; Mr Philip Gibert, Head of Events Programmes, BBC Television; Viscount Marchwood, vice-chairmen and managing director, Moèt & Chandon (Lon-don); Professor Sr Keith Peters, Region Pro-fessor of Physics. Combustee University. Mr fessor of Physics, Cambradge University, Mr Peter Wright, Chauman, Central Council of Magnetics

#### Royal Society of Medicine

Professor Dennis Lincoln delivered the Ellison-Cliffe Lecture yesterday evening at the Royal Society of Medicine, London W1, on the subject "Environmental Impact on Re-productive Health". Sir Donald Harrison, President, and Lady Harrison received the guests at a supper held afterwards.

**London Metal Exchange** Mr R.K. Bagri, chairman, London Metal Exchange Ltd, and the Board of Directors, hosted their annual dinner yesterday evening at Grosvenor House, London WI. Mr Brian Gilbertson, executive chairman of the Gencor Group, was the guest speak-er. Over 1,700 members and guests

of the Exchange also attended

4

# Directions on defendant's silence at trial

Ricciardi; Court of Appeal (Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Turner and Mr Justice Latham): 12 October 1995

Section 35 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, which altered the law in relation to a defendant in a criminal trial who did not give evidence, did not abolish the right to silence but permitted a jury, in a case where the prosecution had established a case to answer, to draw an adverse inference from the defendant's

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) allowed the appeals of Donald Cowan and Ricky Gale against conviction and dismissed Carmine Ricciardi's appeal against conviction.

In the first two appeals the appellants were tried shortly after section 35 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 came into force. Section 35 altered the law and permitted the jury to draw inferences from a defendant's failure to give evidence at his trial. The trial judge directed the jury about each appellant's silence. In the third appellant's trial the judge followed the judicial studies board's specimen di-

#### LAW REPORT

25 October 1995

silence. The appellants appealed on the ground that the trial judge in each case failed. to give a proper direction to the jury about when and what inferences could be drawn. case. It could not be the only Michael Mansfield QC and Michael Magarian; Michael Mansfield QC and factor to justify a conviction and the totality of the evidence Christopher Baur (Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for Cowan and Gayle;

Brian Hurst (Roe & Co, Abergaven ny) for Ricciardi; David Jeffreys QC and Garrett Byrne; David Jeffreys QC and Andrew Radcliffe; David Jeffreys QC and Susannah Farr (CPS) for the Lord Taylor CJ, giving the court's judgment said that it ference. But there would need either to be some evidential basis for doing so or some ex-

should be made clear that the right of silence remained. It was not abolished by the section. As to inhibitions affecting a defendant's decision to testify or not, some existed before the

The argument that section 35 altered the burden of proof was misconceived. The prosecution had to establish a prima facie case before any question of the defendant testifying was raised. The court or jury was prohibited by section 38(3) from convicting solely because rection in summing up to the of an inference drawn from the jury about the defendant's defendant's silence. The ef- ure to give evidence could not

fect of section 35 was that the court or jury might regard the inference from failure to testify as a further evidential factor in support of the prosecution

must prove guilt beyond reasonable doubt. The plain words of section 35 did not justify confining its operation to exceptional cases. It would be open to a court to decline to drawn an adverse inference from silence at trial and for a judge to direct or advise a jury against drawing such in-

ceptional factors making that a fair course to take. The specimen direction suggested by the judicial studies board was a sound guide. The court highlighted certain essentials. The judge would have told the jury that the burden of proof remained on the prosecution throughout and what the required standard was. It was necessary for the judge to make clear that the defendant was entitled to remain silent. An inference from fail-

fore the jury must be satisfied that the prosecution had established a case to answer before drawing any inferences from silence. If, despite any evidence re-lied on to explain his silence or

on its own prove guilt. There-

in the absence of such evidence, the jury concluded the silence could only sensibly be attrib-uted to the defendant's having no answer or none that would stand up to cross-examination. they might draw an adverse inférence. It was not possible to antic-

ipate all the circumstances in which a judge might think it right to direct or advise a jury against drawing an adverse inference. The rule against advocates giving evidence dressed up as a submission applied. It could not be proper for a defence advocate to give to the jury reasons for his client's silence at trial in the absence of evidence to support such reasons.

In the first two appeals the judges had to cope with the new provisions without guidance. Their summing-ups were defective and the appeals must be allowed. In the third appeal the judge's direction could not be criticised and the appeal was

Ying Hui Tan, Barrister

The bank manage

Coutts & Co Bolisto i History ner father in g means of out punck by its ci saut Consess t with se these offers it a go for the Heral all Mine vent. fun f.J.Con in

jd, 45, locksmith, Wast banks Building Society in nant anything fants gapaid on a Friday asset about 30 quid that wouldn't hear the Medition Saturday if 1 int got the money for with to Kwik Save. So ! Esomewhere that's local was like. And building miss are botter value. Minhat I hear, any road.

ST BROMWICH



Mum soul hank wit CARACA PERSONAL SERVICES

But I wanted to go so I settled for a h Maxim percept we £1 000 free county l blew it in one go! I shouldn't leadn to so early but that t ough Autual, ourside

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The bank manager is out - being replaced by an electronic service programmed to suit every lifestyle, says Nic Cicutti

# Not so much a bank as a statement

for the vast mass of the popula- the till, an impatient queue tion, rather than a relatively small minority, a revolution has slowly begun to take place.

Forget the bad old days, when visiting the bank manager, or even his spotty assistant, was like booking a hospital or a doctor's appointment. When time off work had to be specially arranged because the

WEST BROMWICH

Jack, 45, locksmith, West Bromwich Building Society

I don't want anything fancy.

I get paid on a Friday and

spend about 30 quid that

night. I wouldn't hear the

last of it on Saturday if I

hadn't got the money for --

her trip to Kwik Save. So I

no fuss, like. And building

societies are better value,

that's what I hear, any road.

like somewhere that's local,

More than 50 years after Britain's banks and building societies first started to cater for the year mass of simmering angrily behind you. Saturday banking? Anto-

matic cheque book and state-ment requests? Stopping cheques or paying bills instantly? Arranging a mort-gage taking out life insurance? Many of these services have increasingly become available over the past decade or so.

Rupert, 44, stockbroke

Before I married Jemima,

her father-in-law gave me

a word of advice. Judge a

book by its cover, he said. Coutts looks as

smart as the service it

offers. It's good enough

be £3,000 in credit to

HALIFAX

Kate, 19, student, Halifax

they've always been good.

But I wanted to go to India,

£1,000 free overdraft facility.

blew it in one go! Mum said

I shouldn't learn bad habits

so early, but Dad said you're

so I settled for a Halifax

Maxim account with its

only young once.

Mum said bank with Barclays.

for the Royal Family after

all. Mind you, you have to

Coutts & Co

LEU POWETS TIS. In one swood the phone has done away with all the miseries and complications of the old system. In just a few seconds we can be in touch with someone who, it seems, has the answers to all our problems. Someone available day and

night, yet constantly polite, reasonably chatty, helpful - and impersonal. Banks, building societies, insurance companies - increasingly, everyone is leaping on board. Yesterday the Prudential, the UK's mightiest insurer, finally gave the phone its own seal of approval when

of a range of such services but

in the speed and the ease with

which we now have access to

them. The key to this transfor-

mation has been the telephone.

face-to-face conversations, of

angry confrontations, of time-

local branch. The telephone

The phone takes the place of

ng lunchtime treks to the

In one swoop, the telephone has done away with all the miseries and complications of the old system

it announced that it will launch a banking service offering accounts. The service, set to start late next year, will be targeted not just at the Pru's existing 6 million policyholders but at all those others it believes are still waiting to take advantage of the telephone revolution.

Potential customers are now

confronted with a choice. You like the traditional branch-based system? Any high street bank will oblige, usually with longer opening hours and a better uing system than before. But if you are ready to dispense **WITH THE INCEDIES OF A DYANCH SE** up, there is now an attractive mative. Ordering a cheque book, paying a credit card bill at 3am or moving money from a deposit to a current account is

easy by telephone banking.
In truth, most of us don't need that level of freedom most of the time. As one phone banking executive explained, most people don't have the kind of lifestyle that forces them to make late-night calls to their bank. Daytime hours, plus the odd call during a break in Brookside, will do most of the time. It is the sense of empower-

incendiary crackle

gets worse throughout the day

at around deadline

seems, is caused by

nests - not the ornithological kind but the electrical variety. Across the city, thousands of

utility poles are infested with

hundreds of wires, all of them strung up

*Independent* s

bers to opt for the additional potential of phone banking.

Doing it by phone brings extra benefits to the customer, mainly in terms of cost savings. In the case of First Direct, the first and largest phone banking service, it means the first £250 of any overdraft does not incur any charges. Mortgages are at least 0.5 per cent cheaper than work to maintain, can compete

Meanwhile the traditional barriers between the various financial institutions are rapidly breaking down. It is possible to purchase travel insurance, mortgages, health insurance and travellers banking services, from a bank,

NatWest

worker, NatWest

off Barclays as a

I don't have time to

worry about my money:

it, for a start. I was put

there's not enough of

student because they

were investing in South Africa. Sometimes I

wonder why I've stayed with NatWest. Bankers

really know how to kick

you when you're down.

And they sometimes

get my standing

encompassing in what they

In part, this is the effect of competition. The convergence between the services offered by all these institutions means the phone has turned into the ultimate one-stop mechanism for all our financial needs.

Telephone banking does not have to be at the expense of the best bits of the old system. If one wants an old-style rela-tionship with a bank branch, plus evening and weekend banking, it is now possible to mix the two, at least with Lloyds and Barclays.
But the momentum is with

telephone banking. Anyone wanting to join the phone banking revolution has a growing range of accounts to choose from as more and more financial institutions feel obliged to get in on the act.

Spearheading the phone banking revolution until

One of the costs has been the dramatic cut in numbers of banking staff over the past decade

recently has been First Direct. Set up by Midland Bank a little over five years ago, it now has more than 450,000 customers with more joining every week. But most banks and building societies, including Royal Bank of Scotland, Alliance & Leicester and Barclays have now set

For those who prefer computer banking, Bank of Scotland can provide them with the software needed to run an account via a PC. Alternatively, they will even supply a phone and screen to do the same thing

One of the costs of all this has been the dramatic cut in numbers of banking staff over the past decade, with tens of thousands of jobs lost. Banking unions argue that the extra benefits for customers have been a by-product of the mass redundancies rather than the

rationale for the changes. Many customers are deaf to this argument, however. They have seen the future and it works, even if it is at the cost of employees' jobs. It is not hard to see why. The past few years have seen dramatic changes, both in terms of our expectations and the bitter competition now taking place in the financial services sector. Banks and building societies

have been forced to come to terms with this change. There is even a "bank-speak" expression for it: delivery channels. As one Barclays manager

argues: "We have come to realise that there is no one way that people want to be dealt with." Nor is there one way in which they want to be dealt with for the rest of their lives.

This may mean dealing with some transactions over the phone, but going in to see a manager or financial adviser on

Banks are giving us the right to choose, with the telephone as one of the mechanisms for doing so. Perhaps, if there is one benefit from telephone banking it is that one word - choice. For many of us, it has been an agonisingly long

#### first direct

Rod, 35, advertising director, First Direct It was Warren that started it. Paid his mobile bill by phone when he got back from New York ... at 3 am. Neat, huh? Neat card too ... sharp black number. I can do anything with it, except make the bed and wash the





#### The COPERATIVE BANK

Olivia, 43, housewife, Co-operative Bank i became a vegetarian five years ago after watching a TV programme. I do care for the environment. My daughter says I'm PC. So the Co-op's the bank for me: no animal testing, no dealing with oppressive regimes. Shame they don't have many branches.



Gordon, 27, computer **Scotland Screenphone** I'm what you might call a wired-up kinda guy. Seriously switched on. Screenphone is right for those of us in the cyberworld. It's a smart piece of gear, a bit like a lap-top with a phone attached. I'm definitely tempted by their softwarebased systems next.

Drawings by Brian Green



# Beirut Diary

#### ROBERT FISK

7(1)

िसार संस्थित

The Beirut government has been trying to clear away the martyrs. Technicolor billboards of Hizbollah's suicide bombers have cluttered Ouzai and the airport road for more than a decade, but Rafiq Harir's cabinet has decided that illustrations of young men blowing up Israeli tanks in southern Lebanon are sending the wrong message to tourists and would-be foreign investors. So amid much muttering from Hizbollah – its leader, Sayed Hassan Nasrallah, archly suggested that the government had better follow its clean-up campaign by improving the phones and electricity supply – the posters have come down. A number can be seen stacked outside Hizbollah's mosque in Ouzai; goodbye, therefore, to Hassan Burro and his comrades, with their blood turning into tulips and their heads, quite literally, in the

But, propped majestically above the main road into Beirut from southern Lebanon, there remain the 20ft warrior of the 1860 war against the Christian
Maronites and his modern-day,
Kalashnikov-wielding equivalent, hero of a
hundred battles (and quite a lot of throatcutting), both statues guarded by three sinister field guns. Beirutis durifully ignore the symbolism. They don't even talk about "east Beirut" or "west Beirut" any more when I asked for new computer disks for the Independent in a Muslim-owned shop the other day I was told I could find them "in another part of town" - which meant, of course, that they could be found in a Christian-owned store.

A rather more serious clean-up has been going on in the restaurant trade. With Crossus-like generosity, Bearutis love to dine out, but new government inspections have listed a raft of fine cates allegedly serving up food past its sell-by date. They include the splendid sea-front Spaggeteria,

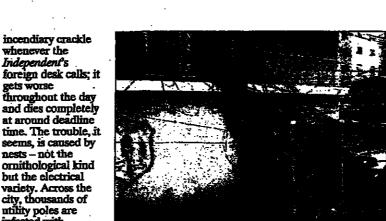
beloved of all wartime correspondents, not least because of the shrapnel-cracked mirrors it used to boast - and, 'in another part of town", the one-time watering-hole of General Ariel Sharon, overseer of lsrael's 1982-85 military débâcle in

So it was good to eat Lebanon's traditional Suitan Ibrahim fish resterday in the pristine confines of Nasr's, high above the Pigeon Rocks; not least because, after only two fish, I espied the dapper figure of



Brigadier General Ghazi Kenaan, the all-powerful head of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, sitting down with a covey of colonels at the next table. Now there's a restaurant that definitely won't dare give its mers food poisoning.

But even at home, it's difficult to keep food fresh when the power still comes only 12 hours a day. The Irish Electricity Supply Board is helping out in the power stations and a group of bullet-nosed Frenchmen are wiring up my local street for 220-volt electricity – much bowing and Gallic scraping was necessary to stop them running a fist-sized cable under my balcony. Two months after they first announced the switchover, however, I'm still on 110 volts. Then there's my local phone line, which emits an



Margaret, 70, former primary school teacher, and Roy, 72, retired civil servant, Lloyds

We've been with our branch as long as the black

manager at get-togethers. He's a nice chap. We

old-fashioned, but it's what you're used to ...

like the personal touch. Our daughter says we're

horse has ... well, since we opened a joint

account, anyway. We often meet the local

links, the others leaching electricity. At least things are going a little faster in the old civil war ruins downtown. Teams of archaeologists have unearthed a treasure trove of Roman cohums, statues, glassware, roads marked by chariot wheels, the whole classical shebang from ancient Berytns, along with a mosaic inscription which advises that

by home owners stealing power off the mains. On one pole, I counted 168 wires this week, half of them phone

"jealousy is the worst of all evils, the only good about it is that it eats up the eyes and heart of the jealous". Builders, meanwhile, are getting a little jealous of the archaeologists patch and want to start erecting the new Beirut. Just after the classical chaps went home last week, one construction company showed its lack of patience by sending a bulldozer

down to the old Decumanus Maximus Roman road. There it quietly ploughed up 60 square metres of Byzantine mosaic pavement, turning to dust in 10 minutes what had lasted for almost 2,000 years. The public prosecutor, as they say, has been

What the Beirut tabloids would tell their readers if tabloids existed in Lebanon: that five lady members of Beirut's "velvet society" – the richer, shop-owning classes -- have been questioned by the police about drug-running that Beirut's Rommieh

prison, with space for 1,000 inmates, now contains 2,100, most of whom will be released because the police hold anyone questioned about drug offences until the completion of their investigation – even though nine out of 10 are said to be innocent; that the Americans are again fingering Lebanon - without proof - as the source of the new US dollar "Supernote" forgery.

Fresh from gaining an extra three years for his presidency after some extremely odd changes to Article 49 of the Lebanese constitution, Elias Hrawi was busy receiving guests at the presidential palace at Baabda when a Shia lady arrived to congratulate him on his continuation in office. Wishing to remind Mr Hrawi that, as a Muslim lady, it was not her practice to shake hands with a man, she touched her right hand lightly to her chest, a traditional female greeting in

Not to be outdone, the 68-year-old president, who under the constitution must be a Christian Maronite, placed a white handkerchief firmly over his right hand so that it was not possible for his flesh to be touched. Then he held out the decorously mouchoired presidential hand - which the somewhat stunned Muslim lady dutifully shook. Both were clearly blissfully unaware that this Gilbertian scene had been watched on live television across Lebanon by tens of

thousands of viewers.

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# An agenda for the **United Nations**

To its many critics, the United slimmed down, corruption rooted out and some satellite agencies closed down. three days in New York in presenting a sad parody of itself, as leaders from all around the world trailed to the city to join in a historic and costly exhalation

The organisation's golden jubilee has coincided exactly with one of its worst moments of crisis, fed by the refusal of the United States to pay up the roughly \$1.3bn it owes the UN. Had Washington stumped up the cash, it might just have been possible for those attending the jamboree in New York to leave saying that all was relatively well. Complacency and inaction would have been the order

Instead, we now have probably the best chance we are ever likely to get to institute wide reforms of the UN. John Major was right on Monday to support Boutros Boutros-Ghali's request for an emergency session of the General Assembly next year to try to agree a way forward and re-establish some order in the UN's accounts. In the run-up to such a session, Britain, the US and the other countries that make up the core 15 member states (who pay 80 per cent of the UN's budget) should work hard to ensure that a serious attempt is at last made at reform.

The headings for that reform have heen more or less identified. Clearly the perennial money crisis has to be sorted out once and for all. Unarguably, the bloated expanse of bureaucracy in New York and around the world should be

The Economic and Social Committee in the UN, which is meant to deal with everything other than security, including development, is a hopelessly confused operation that needs urgently to be rebuilt. The need for regional organi-sations such as the UN Economic Commission for Europe is far from

But austerity alone will be insufficient to underpin the UN's future, and more than the cost-cutter's logic will be needed to win the agreement of all countries to change. Above all, the organisation needs to have its legitimacy underpinned. For a start, that means making its steering bodies more democratic.
There is consensus now that the Security Council itself, dominated by the original permanent five, should have a wider membership. And while Britain and the US might like the idea of jettisoning some agencies concerned with development, many smaller countries will resist. So the UN will have to prove that it is still concerned with economic, social and environmental issues, and that it realises that they are deeply intertwined with security problems.

Reform of the UN will only happen if the member states achieve a mutual sense of confidence about the organisation's purpose. Redefining that purpose must be the first and most urgent step towards renewal. From that, detailed reshaping and retrenchment



With apologies to John Fowles

If, in the late autumn of 1995, you had been a guest at the oddly-named Buena Vista Hotel, in the town of Lyme Regis and had chosen to take tea in the Tivoli Rooms - you might have discerned, by inclining slightly to your left, the figure of

awy front door of a neighbouring house. This man, of an appearance that the conventions of the time declared to be that of an author - salt-and-pepper beard. arboreal check shirt, coarse corduroy trousers with fly undone in the English style - would pass beneath the window, his jaws working with suppressed anger. Despairing of your scones you might have decided that greater diversion was to be had from following the tall figure wherever he might lead.

See him at the top of Steep Pond Street, cursing the late visitors that throng the narrow streets and methodically fail to find the waste-bins with their handscrunched chip wrappings. Now his literary form carves a swathe through Broad Street, scattering the continuity girls from a BBC film unit engaged in yet another Jane Austen adaptation. Shricking and giggling they flee for the shelter of a mobile tea van, from which free bacon

sandwithes are being dispensed to the cast. Follow him through the car-park, striking out at the stationary motor vehicles, whose red, green and blue metal frames have conveyed here the groups of gaily attired grockle folk (as Lyme nomenciature has it) clogging the town. At last he stands at the Cobb Gate, a blustery easterly buffing the redness of his cheeks, and surveys the long curving mole.

Follow his gaze down the sea-rampart

of the Cobb, whale-like in its immensity, but still fragile as it holds on tenuously to the sombre shore. What you and he see is the figure of a woman, clothed all in black, staring Streep-like out to sea.

The author approaches, but does not speak. The woman looks up. Five minutes ass before, shading her face with her hand, she turns away. He examines her in silence and then turns, wordlessly, to stare at the sombre, grey sea. She turns to him, her pale lips part momentarily, but she says nothing. Then she turns away.

Next, something happens so unex-

pected that an atom bomb being detonated on the old road to Charmouth could not be more surprising. He speaks. "You're French. Is it your bloody Deux-Chevaux parked half on the pavement outside my house?" She turns away. " You are wrong on two counts", she replies. "I am the woman of a French lieutenant, not the French woman of a lieutenant of indeterminate nationality. Besides, I came here in a coach with fellow members of Women Against Harassment By French NCOs. We are celebrating our recent grant from the National Lottery. Now please leave and do not get all romantic. I am not in the mood for corn on the Cobb." And she turns again to contemplate the sun-plashed but sombre sea.

#### ANOTHER VIEW Peter Waddington

#### Patrolling with a purpose

The leaked report of the Audit Commission into police patrolling merely confirms what researchers have been saying for years and what most police offi-cers recognise: beat patrol is aimless, boring and has little impact on crime. How-ever, the commission's belief that this arises from poor management is superfi-

cial, as are the remedies it suggests. Between two-thirds and three-quarters of the police budget goes on patrolling. For the officers who do it, patrolling consists of hours of aimless wandering the streets, hoping that something will happen. Few seem to have any clear notion of why they patrol the places that they patrol. Their routes are usually decided on a whim. They rarely meet members of the public and prefer to patrol in pairs so they have someone to talk to. It is highly unlikely that they will make an arrest and even more unlikely that they will detect

The Audit Commission is correct: patrol is badly managed, but the commission's emphasis on crime-lighting is part of the problem, not the solution.

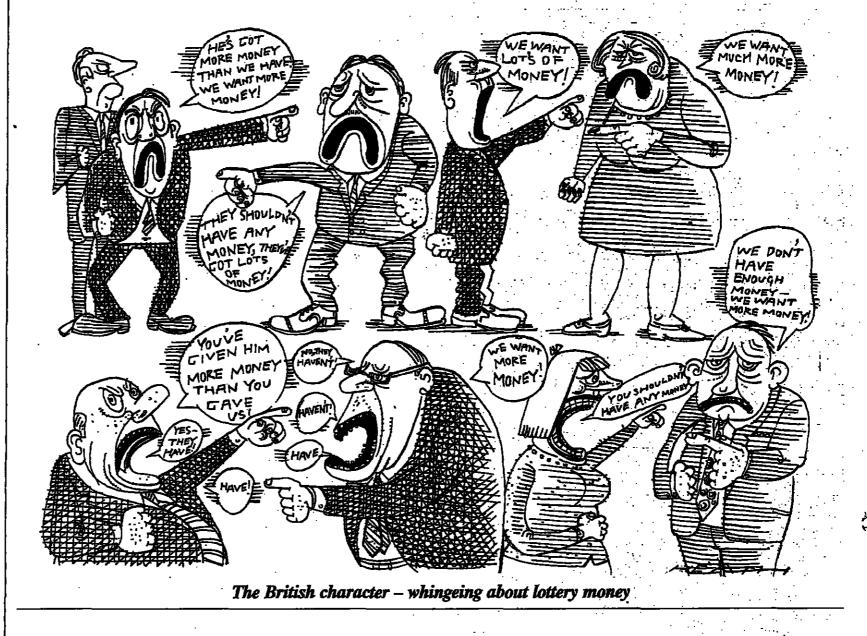
Most police work is in response to specific demands for assistance from the public. Such demands are enormously diverse, including reporting crimes, sub-criminal "trouble", and all manner of emergencies, from reporting missing children to elderly people thought to be in distress. It is this that justifies a 24-hour, mobile, generic emergency service. If police officers were devoted to intelligence-led crime-fighting duties they would be unavailable to

respond to these manifold problems. The real challenge to policy makers and managers is how to ensure good quality service for those who turn to the police in times of trouble. The police can rightly be criticised for the almost total neglect of their non crime-fighting role. Individ-ually, officers tend to dismiss the bulk of their work as "rubbish" because it fails to conform to the spurious glamour of crime-fighting. Corporately, the police disperse their officers throughout the area and leave them to "get on with it".

Supervisory and senior officers tacitly conspire in the denigration of non-crime work by ignoring it. When officers make arrests, reports will be written and read by their superiors - it is important to "get it right". On the other hand, an officer who deals skilfully with a dispute between neighbours or defuses a confrontation is likely to receive neither

recognition nor advice. Management in the police service should be devoted to supporting and assisting officers on routine patrol to provide the highest quality of service to all those who turn to the police in times of trouble. The insistence on assessing all police work in terms of its contribution to crime-lighting will only further encourage future generations of officers to tismis much of what they do as "rubbish".

The writer is author of Calling the Police', a study of routine police work.



#### - LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

lished. We are left impotent when

dealing with patients' concerns.

trumpeting "evidence-based

medicine" as an explanation for

the rationing that is occurring in the NHS. If the three studies

quoted by the DoH have not

been critically analysed, then this

cannot be "evidence-based med-

icine". There are thousands of

studies occurring at any one time,

many of poor quality. If studies are not allowed to be challenged

in open debate, then I fear we will

be basing our care on rumours

and scaremongering. Is this really

the precedent the Government

GPs on the evening of 18 Octo-ber and a press conference was

arranged for the following morn-

ing. The department has taken

the moral high ground by saying that it is their duty to inform Pill

users as early as possible. Why

then are the women advised to go

and see their GPs? If the DoH

wishes to involve us, it should do

so in full consultation with the GP

leaders. If not, then leave us out

October ("Prudence and the Pill.

revisited") and the subsequent

tained inaccuracies. The first

generation (high-dose oestro-

gen) Pills lead to a greater risk of

thromboembolism than either

the second generation (low

oestrogen). Pills or the third gen-

eration (desogestrel and gesto-

correction (21 October) con-

Both your editorial on the 20

The DoH sent letters to all

vishes to set?

of the mess.

dene) Pills.

N. M. Nabi

23 October

Yours sincerely,

The Government has been

#### Pill scare: trouble for doctors and women

From Dr C. N. Barry
Sir: In common, I suspect, with
most other GPs, I heard about the latest Pill scare via the media on Thursday, before the official letter arrived in my post on Fri-day morning. The official advice to women is, perhaps not unrea-sonably at first sight, not to panic, but to consult your doctor during the current monthly cycle.

In our practice of six wholetime-equivalent doctors, with 10,000 patients, we have about 360 women taking the allegedly "less safe" brands of Pill. To see them all over the next four weeks we would have to offer an extra 90 appointments per week at a time of year when practices are traditionally busy with seasonal ailments and, to cap it all, beginning in the half-term week when, as it bappens, we have two partners away on holiday!

Sadly, this is just example of officialdom making recommendations, without the slightest idea of their practical

Yours faithfully, C. N. BARRY

Wroughton Health Centre Swindon, Wiltshire

From Dr Irene Bainbridge

and others Sir: We are concerned about the motives behind the latest official warning on the dangers of certain low-cose combined contraceptive pills ("Pill alert for a million women", 20 October). The report suggests that at-risk patients are more likely to suffer from clotting disorders if they take certain brands of contraception.

Doctors have known of the risks from the combined contraceptives for many years. The risks

Sir: I would like to correct a false

impression in Christopher Bel-

lamy's article "US cancels laser

weapon that can cause blind-ness" (14 October). The US did

not cancel its portable "Laser

Countermeasure System" directly

in response to the new interna-tional ban on blinding laser

weapons. The US decision came

a week earlier as delegations,

including those from the US and

the UK, crafted the protocol's language to let such anti-optical

laser weapons escape any inter-

national regulation despite their

It is unfortunate that diplomats

negotiated a far weaker protocol

on a limited category of blinding

laser weapons at a time when

laser weapons are not widely

Delia's for dunces

From Mr and Mrs R. Gregson
Sir: We have long held that

Delia Smith's recipes bear the same relationship to cooking as

painting by numbers does to

art, and so were immensely

pleased to find in Rose Shep-

herd's article "Delia runs wild in

the bookshop" (17 October) that we are not as alone in this

opinion as our friends and

neighbours would like us to

What is this fear of cooking

that the Sian Forbeses (letter,

21 October) of the world claim

to inhibit them? Surely, once

you have mastered a few basic

potential to blind.

Blind spot in

From Ms Ann Peters

arms protocol

are real but very small. This is pre-cisely why the Pill is not available over the counter and can only be obtained from doctors. Before they provide any combined contraceptives, all family doctors take account of the woman's medical, social and family history and we only provide contraception we consider is safe for the patients.

We believe the current warning is irresponsible and unjustified, causing many women undue anxiety. Some will have stopped their contraceptives, thereby risking an unwanted pregnancy, a condition not without its own hazards and long-term consequences. Is it just coincidence that only

a year ago the Government wanted to blacklist certain brands of Pill on the grounds of costs? Yours sincerely, IRENE BAINBRIDGE, MARIYN JONES, DAVID ROBERTS, SHOM

THOMAS, JOHN ZACHARIAS National Committee of the Dispensing Doctors Association Barham, Ipswich 20 October

From Dr N. M. Nabi Sir. Several issues have arisen out of the Department of Health's recent announcement

concerning the contraceptive Pill. The DoH lists varicose veins, obesity and previous thrombosis as reasons for discontinuing the thirdgeneration Pills containing desogestrel and gestodene. It is firmly established that varicose veins are not a contra-indication to the Pill. One of the biggest risk factors, smoking, has not been listed. As GPs, we are unable to com-

ment on the actual research that persuaded the DoH to go public, as the research is not yet pub-.

deployed within countries' arsenals. Perhaps the US Department

of Defense decision reflects a recognition that the military util-

ity of this particular anti-optical

laser weapon is overshadowed by

the humanitarian impact on sol-

The new ban on blinding laser

weapons also has not come into

diers and society as a whole.

any loopholes in the protocol.

techniques, then the joy is in

the experimentation and cre-

ation of thinking for yourself in

the kitchen - and learning in

Even if it does go wrong (and

it is rarely all that bad), you can always turn to the pizza in the freezer or an omelette to stave

off hunger. At worst, you have

lost some ingredients and a little

time, but you will probably have learnt more from the experience

than Delia can teach you.

Yours faithfully,

JEAN GREGSON

Offord Cluny.

RICHARD GREGSON

Yours sincerely,

Human Rights Watch

Ann Peters

Arms Project

London, N1

the process.

20 October

#### Wonderful Copenhagen

Walker Medical Group

Newcastle upon Tyne

From Mrs Joan A. Davis Sir: In Alastair Down's article on Red Rum ("The horse who could win a by a landslide", 21 October), he refers to "poor old Copenhagen hanging about all day waiting for Napoleon to get

force yet. Twenty states now must ent to be bound by the ban Copenhagen was otherwise engaged, as he was the charger the Duke of Wellington rode before it becomes international law. The UK should take the lead and ratify the new protocol on blinding laser weapons without delay. It must send the clear mes-sage that deliberate blinding is an throughout the last 17 hours of the Battle of Waterloo on 18 June 1815. He is said to still have been fresh when the Duke unacceptable way to wage war and must work towards removing dismounted, and to have kicked out, narrowly missing the Duke's skull.

There are differing accounts of his pedigree but it is generally agreed that he was a grandson of the great Eclipse. He had origi-nally belonged to Field Marshal Grosvenor, was sold by him to the Marquis of Londonderry, then Adjutant General to the Peninsular Army, who sent him to Lis-bon in 1813. He was then bought by Colonel Charles Wood, ogether with another horse, for 400 guineas for the Duke, with whom he soon became a

favourite. Copenhagen was a small horse, a stallion standing about 15 hands high, but of great strength and endurance. He was foaled in 1808 and died in 1836 when he was buried with military honours at Strathfield Saye: A headstone marks his grave. JOAN A. DAVIS

Freshwater, Isle of Wight

Tapes are a legal safeguard

From Mr Christopher Witts Sir. I sympathise with the senti-ments behind Marguerite Evers' and Alan Bullion's letters about selling evidence for profit in cases such as Frederick West's (23 October), but there are wider aspects which they ignore.
Firstly, a fundamental rule of

Pace [the Police and Criminal Evidence Act] is that the police nust provide interviewees with duplicate tapes. If the tapes were to come with a complete ban on publication, a vital safeguard would be destroyed. Usually, there would be nothing to prevent the individual from recounting the interview at a later date. If the interviewee died, it would make no material difference except that his rights to the tapes would pass to his estate.

In the event of the interviewee dying in suspicious circumstances

during the interview, or at least while in custody, your columns would be full of questions about the nature of the questioning it publication of the tapes were lawfully prevented.

Secondly, if the material takes on a commercial value and the Official Solicitor ignores it, no doubt any innocent defendants. whose financial interests he is there to protect, would have a right of action against him and they, too, might be calling for his removal from office.

Perhaps we may all take some comfort from the fact that we do have sub judice rules which at least protect us from some of the travesties of justice transmitted to us from across the Atlantic. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER WITTS Malmesbury, Wiltshire

#### When does success spell failure?

From Mr Eric Hebborn Sir. In his review of Alice Beckett's Fakes: Forgery and the Art World ("The Art of Lying", 16 September), David Ekserdjian says that I have been quoted as comparing myself with Michelangelo and Rembrandt, without bothering to say who quotes me, or if I compare myself favourably or otherwise. In response, allow me to quote from my autobiog-raphy, *Drawn to Trouble*: "I have never considered myself a mis-

understood genius or for that matter a genius at all."
As for being a failed artist, I dou't know what Mr Ekserdjian considers success, but an artist such as myself, who has won such prestigious prizes as the Royal Academy's silver medal and the Rome scholarship, has had innumerable one-man shows. and whose works are represented in some of the most important public and private collections in

the world can hardly be consid-

ered a total failure. Unfortunately, Mr Ekserdjian has adopted his slant from the book he was reviewing, where the author writes. "It seems to me Hebborn wrote his book in desperation for recognition." Well, Ms Beckett is entitled to her opinion, but like most of us she believe what she wants to believe. The fact remains that scarce as the supply of truth is, it yet far exceeds its demand

Yours truly, ERIC HEBBORN

#### Off track

From Mr Tim Mickleburgh Sir: So, "Linford Christie is the greatest athlete this country has ever produced" (Magazine, 21 October)? Well, it was a tremendons achievement for him to win the 100m gold in Barcelona, but let's not forget that Sebastian Coe (1,500m, 1980 and 1984) and Daley Thompson (decathlon, 1980 and 1984) both gained two Olympic titles, as well as setting world records, something Christie has never done. Indeed, Coe's time of 1.41.73 for the 800m, set at Florence in June 1981, remains on the listings

Yours faithfully, TIM MICKLEBURGH Grimsby, Lincolnshire 21 October

#### | Environmental facts on the Net

From Mr Alan Watson

Sir: You reported today that Friends of the Earth has "placed a register of Britain's most polluting factories, gasworks, chemical plants and refineries on the Internet" ("Blackspot warnings go on the Internet", 20 October). While we have provided detailed information on over 1,000 industrial sites, including some gasification processes, we haven't yet been able to publish data on old polluted gasworks sites. This is because the locations of these toxic legacies have been kept a closely guarded secret by British Gas.

We have, however, undertaken studies of gasworks and other contaminated land and we will be placing this information on to the Internet very soon. If British Gas had not been privatised, the public would have had a right to know detailed information about contamination of gasworks sites under the Environmental Information Regula-Our decision to process this

data for the internet has been vindicated by the tremendous uptake.

In the first four hours after the aunch, the data was seen by 10 times as many people as visited the Pollution Inspectorate's registers in a whole year. We hope that industry and regulators will take note and provide detailed environmental information on the Net.

Yours sincerely, ALAN WATSON Senior Campaigner Friends of the Earth London, N1 19 October

#### **Lottery squabbles**

From Mr Tony Brown Sir. As the name-calling by the disappointed reaches a crescendo, the obvious is overlooked. If there were no lottery, there would be no cash to squabble over. Yours faithfully, Tony Brown

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@ ident.co.nk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret that we are unable to nowledge unpublished letters.



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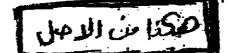
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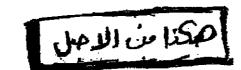
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21 October



# Lord Mackay's well-intentioned fiasco

The proposals for divorce reform threaten to create a mess on a par with the Child Support Agency

ast week the bold Lord Mackay was a paean of praise for marriage, portraying his liberalising divorce addressed Marriage Care, the Catholic Marriage Advisory Council There was standing room only for his speech expounding the virtues of his proposed divorce reform bill, due in Parliament-next month.

If for this Wee Free Lord Chancellor this amounted to supping with the popish anti-Christ, at least he sold his soul for something of tangible value. An astonishing press release soon afterwards was his reward. It reads: The Catholic Media Office has written to all the Catholic members of Parliament pointing out that the Lord Chancellor's White Paper on divorce law reform was broadly welcomed by the Catholic Bishops Conference. Mgr Kieran Conroy said: 'It would be quite wrong if Catholic MPs were to be swayed in their view of the Lord Chancellor's proposals by incorrect information about the Catholic bish-

What a coup, just as the Catholic MPs are being lobbied vigorously by John Patten to demand a free vote on the new no-fault, knock-for-knock

If Lord Mackay were not such an honourable man, it might be suspected that he had pulled the wool over the eyes of the gullible anti-divorce Catholic bishops. Were he not so utterly ingenuous by nature, his speech might read as one of the most disingenuous for a long while. But he probably believed every word he spoke. That is what worries a lot of professionals in the field. Does he have any idea what he is doing and

why?
The entire content of the speech

reforms as no more than marriage guidance that would get couples back together again. He sounded like the Pope. He spoke of marriage as "special ... a unique affirmation of the lifelong commitment a man and a woman have made to each other .... I believe it is a divinely appointed

institution which is of inestimable value to the human family." Pages more of this brought him stealthily round to the question of divorce, and even then it was as sugar-coated as a golden wedding tribute. "I do not believe that a marriage is necessarily irretrievable, just because one of the parties has asked for a divorce.... This is one of the main reasons underlying my wish to change the current divorce system ... I want couples to talk to each other. want them to be able to think

through the consequences of divorce before it happens, not after. I want them to think about what their marriage has to offer both them and their children before they decide whether or not to throw it away.... I believe mediation offers a better way of saving those marriages which are not irretrievable."

Is it surprising he had the Catholics eating out of his hand? This is the unlikely man who is introducing the most radical divorce reform since 1969 when the Labour MP Leo Abse openly advocated "libidinal liberation". Under it couples will divorce without fault after one year, instead of the present two (or five years if one partner resists). The case for reform is that the law is mocked, since most



#### POLLY TOYNBEE

Mediation is an excellent option, but is suitable for fewer than half the cases

couples divorce within months on often trumped-up and damaging accusations of unreasonable behaviour. Removing fault stops that loophole, but it is a fundamental moral

There will be a compulsory information session for couples as soon as they file for divorce, and a very strong push towards mediation, instead of resorting to their separate lawyers. However, every piece of advice, esearch and evidence that the Lord Chancellor has been given has told him loud and clear that mediation does not get couples back together again. When it works, it helps them

separate with less strife. The problem with Mackay's misunderstanding and wishful thinking about mediation is that it is in danger of leading to a system that will not work, and may do much harm, espe-cially to vulnerable poorer women.

Couples will be coerced into mediation, though it will only have real force with those on legal aid. If legally aided couples refuse mediation, they will have to appear before an intake officer who will decide if they have a good enough reason for

The problem is that Mackey's sen-timental view of the process has clouded the fact that these people are in bitter opposition, fighting for extremely important rights to children and property. The Solicitors' Family Law Association was not simply acting as a trade union this week when it expressed deep alarm that people would not have access to advice from lawyers. Research shows that mediation works best backed up by legal

advice as the process goes along.

Diana Parker, a leading family solicitor, is also a strong believer in mediation, as a founder of the Family Mediators' Association. She says drily of Mackay's views: "The only couples who typically get back together are the violent cases, where there is still enough passion smouldering away for liation after reconciliation until they finally burn out and split. The ones for whom mediation works well are those who have already disengaged, and embark upon it coolly with clear-cut objectives. In mediation they are no longer a couple, but two people with very different interests."

Mediation is an excellent option, but is suitable for fewer than half the cases. If the host of new mediators (who will not be lawyers) are on block government contracts, the pressure to get results will be intense. Mackay may have had a personal vision of happy

reconciliations, but he sold it to the Treasury on the grounds that it will limit the legal aid bill for divorce, because the hourly rates for mediators will be cheaper than for solicitors.

The great majority of wives go on to social security when they separate from their husbands. They divorce on legal aid, and have no other money for lawyers. Discovering the true earnings and assets of husbands can prove very difficult, especially for self-employed men with complicated finances. Mediators on performance-related contracts may be urged to engineer quickfix deals against the interests of the most vulnerable. They may not have the professional expertise to scrutinise difficult accounts. There is here another Child Support Agency fiasco

in the making.

The most curious aspect to this whole divorce reform initiative is that there is no great pressure for it from anywhere. It is Lord Mackay's own baby, pushed through a deeply dubious Cabinet that would never have swallowed it from any less Christian

Virtually all the organisations concerned with marriage and divorce agree that children of divorce will be helped if conflict between couples is lessened. But the danger is that a new two-tier system is being brought in, with one law for poor divorcees, and another for the rich who can afford lawyers and accountants. All will depend on the small print of the Bill when it is published next month. If it denies poor people free reasonable access to lawyers throughout the process, then it may end up doing more harm than good.

# The key to my enlightenment

comment

Not very long ago I was standing in a Catholic church in the middle of Italy when I had a sudden flash of enlightenment. All at once it came to me, as if from nowhere, that it was about time I took some of the things off my

Let me explain the back-ground to this vision. During my recent absence from these nages, I was in Italy working for an independent TV company on a Channel 4 programme about saints' relics. (I am not an expert on saints relies. I think that was one of the reasons they hired me: I lent an air of holy innocence to the proceedings In the course of our travels

we came to the hill town of Cascia, where the body of St Rita, patron saint of lost causes, is displayed to the public, even though she died hundreds of years ago and is now a little shrunken. And after we had finished talking to the very patient nun who agreed to face the camera and tell me the somewhat horrific story of St Rita, with the body of the saint hovering in mid-air behind us, she took me into a back room and said with a beatific smile: "This

is a present for you." "This" was a key-ring. It had a little locket dangling from it, with some roses on one side and a picture of St Rita on the other. The picture of the saint is subtitled, in Italian, "S. Rita, Proteggimi", or "St Rita, protect

I thanked her in profuse, but minimal Italian and to show that I meant business I got my keys out to introduce St Rita on to my key-ring. And it was under the gaze of this nun that I suddenly realised how grossly over-populated and over-privileged my key-ring was.

Normally, we do not realise this until our keys start creating holes in pockets or become too heavy to lift, but when you are exposing your keys to the holy gaze of a nun who, you are convinced, owns nothing and needs nothing, and has perhaps even sold all and given unto the poor, you can't help feeling a bit of a fat cat.

There and then I promised St Rita that I would rationalise my keys when I got home.

Today, I have got out my bunch of keys and have started the audit. For a start, I have weighed it, and it comes in at just under 200 grammes, or iust over 7 ounces. It also led to the following question from my wife. "Why are you weighing your

keys?"
They're about half

pound," I said, deliberately ignoring the question. "Has it ever occurred to you

that you walk around every day with a packet of butter in your pocket?" she said.

"St Rita, give me strength," "What did you say?"

"Nothing "I thought I heard a woman's

"Someone called Nobody you know."

Now that honours were even, got down to the job of cutaloguing my keys. There are about 16 of them. I sav about 16 because it is almost impossible to avoid counting keys twice on a key-ring. There are two for bicycle locks and two keys for a rowing boat lock. There are several for cars, and several for doors in the house. (Outside doors, that is. Most of the interior doors in our house have locks as well, but we removed the keys from them because my son and his contemporaries went through a happy phase of accidentally locking themselves in rooms. They have passed that phase now. They are now into a phase of deliberately locking people



into rooms. So the keys are back in hiding. In the cellar, in a box, I think.) There are also several luggage keys, and there are two keys I do not recognise.

Why are you counting your keys ?" said my wife. This, you will remember, is the same person who had earlier asked me why I was weighing them. There are two keys here I do not recognise," I said, again ignoring her question. I am good at ignoring questions. I

would make a fine politician. "Well," she said, "that one is the bike-shed key but I don't recognise the other one."

Have you noticed that there

is always at least one key on your ring that is a stranger, in the same way that hotel rooms always have one electric switch that operates nothing? Never get rid of it. In my experience, the petrol cap on a car. I once borrowed my wife's car and had to fill it up with petrol, and couldn't open the locked petrol cap, but then found that I had the key to it on my ring, although I swear I never out it there.

Why are you looking worried," said the woman who asks all these questions. "I can't think of a way of

lightening my key-ring."
"Why not take off that completely unnecessary St Rita attachment?"

Of course. Why hadn't I thought of that?

# Spend less, let the people prosper



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Europe should learn from the successful Asian nations and rein in the state sector. argues Chris Patten

resonance for all of us in Hong Kong. It was the suggestion that Britain should aim to become, in effect, the Hong Kong of Europe, offering - if I took the point accurately - an offshore entrepreneurial haven: an open economy throbbing with vitality, invigorated by low taxes, liberated from excessive governmental regulation. All this in sharp contrast to a more bureaucratically burdened, higher taxed, introverted, Continental Europe. If Deng Xiaoping was living in Brussels, he would have had a phrase for it - "one community, two

I find this notion of the symbiotic colonial relationship rather a happy

There is not an umbilical connection between public morality and public spending

one. Can Britain learn lessons from her last great colony - and apply them to her own long-term advantage? There is less of a hang-up in most successful Asian countries about the

relationship between the individual and the state. Most have pursued economic policies that have been market-driven but, like Hong Kong, have leant heavily on substantial public investment in social equity programmes - health, housing, education. In Hong Kong, we are relaxed about mixing and matching public and priestment for community benefits. Like Deng Xiaoping, we care less about the colour of the cat than about

whether it catches mice. But we assume that free-market cats are likely to do the job best. We must surely in Britain and Europe rededicate ourselves with the fervour of zealots to open markets and free trade. If we want Asian spending power to help to fuel world growth then we've got to make room in our department stores and our showrooms for the things that Asia makes.

These days I am a distant and dis-creet observer of party confer-The billionaire protectionists in Amerences. But one phrase from the lica and Europe should get short shrift." torates of Europe want faster economic growth. We have seen in the

past few years that nothing gets better without it, and that since ties of community are strained by its absence, it is worth at least challenging the assumption that any more radical efforts to revitalise our economies would inevitably require policies that tear communities apart. They tear apart anyway. What is the issue around which I

tiptoe so delicately? It is quite simply the appetite of states; it is the proportion of every community's income that is taken in taxes and public spending. In Hong Kong this year we will spend 16.2 per cent of our GDP on public expenditure, and take 11.6 per cent in taxes.

You find similar spending figures elsewhere in the region: in Korea about 18 per cent; in Taiwan almost 16 per cent; in Thailand about 15 per cent; in Singapore about 20 per cent; in Malaysia a whopping 25 per cent. Admittedly it is hard to compare like with like. But the picture is broadly the same. Relatively lower levels of pubhic spending as a proportion of GDP are a hallmark of these booming Asian economies.

What is the position in Europe? In Britain, nearly 43 per cent of our GDP goes on public expenditure. In France the figure is almost 55 per cent; in Germany - where Chancellor Kohl recently advocated slimming down the state sector - the figure is 49 per cent. I use these figures only to illustrate a more general proposition. Lower

proportions of public expenditure are without doubt a consequence in part of less advanced stages of economic development. In Japan, for example, the figures are much closer to those in Europe and North America. The figures in Asia may edge up as

the appetite of electorates for public provision grows - though in Hong Kong, while we have had substantial increases in spending on social welfare, the proportion of GDP devoted to public expenditure is likely to be lower in 1997 than it was in 1982-83. All these comparisons require a health warning with flashing neon lights, and



Hong Kong: could Europe imitate its vibrant, low-tax economy?

I do not pretend that Hong Kong's health and educational provision. level of public spending as a proportion of GDP is a realistic target for OECD countries.

So I am not an advocate of a slashand-burn approach to public spending. But my three years in the fastestgrowing region in the world, in one of the fastest-growing economies in the world, have impressed on me that some reduction in the state's take of national income is an essential condition for more rapid growth as well as, of course, for lower taxes, which them-selves help to spur growth. And I find it hard to accept that existing public. taxpayer-funded provision is so pluperfect that it cannot be snipped,

pruned or in some cases dismantled. Hong Kong is not demonstratively worse off with proportionately much lower public spending than equivalent economies in Europe. But it has long had an iron rule that public spending should not grow faster than the trend rate of growth in the economy. As a result, public expenditure has remained below 20 per cent of GDP, taxes have stayed low and Hong Kong's economy has continued to grow healthily. So it has been able to afford increases in public spending to provide decent levels of welfare,

I hope that I can set these observations quite apart from any current controversies, and apply them to Europe as a whole. They represent an objective, not a costed programme. The scale of the task of curbing public expenditure means that it must be one for the long term. But the long term has to start somewhere. Naturally it would be better if reform and assumption that there is an umbilical connection between public morality

and public spending.

In his brilliant book The World
After Communism. Robert Skidelsky concedes that how to make significant cuts in state spending bristles with technical and political difficulties. But, as he goes on to argue, "at root the issue is philosophical. We need to answer two kinds of question. Are the welfare responsibilities which the state has assumed over this century any longer appropriate in privately wealthy societies? And what, in such societies, is the appropriate division of responsibility we would want to see between the individual and the state?"

This is a profoundly liberal issue. Of course, it assumes an end result of lower taxes and an end to envy as the motor of fiscal policy. But I am not advocating the crasser sorts of individualism, in which men and women are regarded as culturally rootless and devoid of a sense of duty and responsibility. Nor am I arguing, as some appear to do, that everything that states do is wrong and that we need retrenchment in the public sector could be pursued with as broad a base of public and political support as possible. We have to challenge the strongly in the ethic of public service, and admire the professionalism of Britain's public

> But I also see the case for what Skidelsky calls "state repair", both in the European Union and in those fellow European states to the east that should be part of it. In other words, we shall only be able to restore the authority of states by shrinking what they do. They are, today, musclebound but weak; ambitious but derided. To do much better, they must do much less.

This is an edited extract from a speech given by the Governor of Hong Kong to the Conservative Political Centre last

by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

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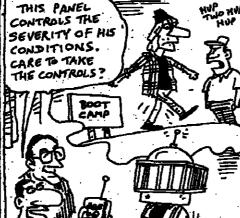


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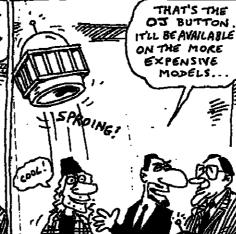
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Nth Ireland Elity	475	16	35	McKechnie	442	12	26
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Source: Datastream

#### IN BRIEF

#### Still no deal on £3bn Grid

The National Grid Company failed again to reach final agreement on details of its £3bn flotation, expected to take place in December. An announcement expected last Friday was postponed because of tax-related "technical" issues raised by Hanson, the industrial group which has bought Eastern Electricity, one of the 12 regional electricity companies which owns the Grid. Industry sources hope for resolution of the problem by tomorrow.

#### Omnitel connects to \$1bn loan

Financial advisers to Italian cellular phone company Omnitel will today announce that the company's \$1.1bn syndicated loan has been oversubscribed, with a substantial share placed with foreign investors, including UK institutions. The financing will underwrite the roll-out of Omnitel's network, which will compete with the state telephone company Telecom Italia. Company executives declined to comment on the financing deal, saying that lead banks — including JP Morgan, Chase Manhattan, UBS and Société Générale --- would make an announcement today

#### **United nears USAir decision**

United Airlines - one of the world's largest employee-owned companies - achieved record income in the third quarter and gave a bullish forecast of future growth that helped lift shares

across the sector. The company is expected to decide within the next two or three weeks whether or not to bid for the rival carrier USAir, in which British Airways - headed by Sir Colin Marshall (right) - has a 24.6 per cent stake. American Airlines is also considering a bid for US-Air, although reports from Washington yesterday sugeested that American was close to a link-up with British Airways, BA described the re-



ports as pure speculation, but admits talking to a number of air-lines about expansion in the US should it sell its stake in USAir.

#### North West's Norweb stake now 44%

North West Water now owns or has acceptances in respect of 44.8 per cent of Norweb. The Government is due to decide by 3 November on whether to refer the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

#### Currencies bounce back

There was a mild bounce-back by currencies hit by the flight to the German mark on Monday. The dollar closed in London up half a prennig at 1.3873 and the pound strengthened by half a plennig to close at 2.1925. The French franc improved two centimes against the mark to 3.5080. The dollar ended the day in London just above 100 yen.

#### Newspaper merger approved

Independent Newspapers (UK), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Independent Newspapers plc, has been given government approval to acquire London Recorder Newspapers which owns nine local weeklies in the north and west of the capital.

# Prudential takes on the banks

JOHN WILLCOCK and NICK CICUTTI

Prudential, Britain's largest insurance company, last night sent shock waves through the financial services industry by announcing it was about to move into retail banking.

Its plan to sell savings and mortgages down the telephone is seen as the beginning of a fullservice banking operation and is the latest move in a revolution among banks, building so-cieties and insurance companies which has seen nearly £30bn worth of takeovers and acquisitions in the past 18 months.

Analysts praised the Pru's low-cost, high-profile approach, which is aimed at retaining some of the £1bn-odd it pays out on maturing policies each year. Much of this is deposited with banks and building socieities, the Pru said.

"It's a logical extension, a nice nove," said Tom Bennett, insurance analyst at Paribas. Similar moves by insurers in Scandinavia had forced banks to raise their deposit rates to in-

a phone banking launch comes hard on the heels of a series of deals in which banks, building societies and insurers have all reacted to a low-inflation, deregulated and highly competi-

The good news is that they're not buying an existing

e marketplace.



Michael Harris: setting up

years that they might do so," said Nick Bunker, an ABN Amro Hoare Govett analyst.

Peter Davis, said in a statement: "We enjoy existing relationships with over 6 million customers in the UK and benefit from a well established and well regarded brand."

around £700m a year in mortgages, using a panel of building. societies and banks. Prudential's chief executive, we can build a substantial business in a short period of time."

# Man with gift for the big picture

"Given this base, we believe

The insurer is well placed to

use its financial muscle, making

profits of £604m last year.

Mr Davis said.

chief executive of First Direct, the successful Midland Bank subsidiary, which first intro-duced telephone banking to a mass audience in the late 1980s, writes John Willcock.

Leaving that job after three years in 1991, he seemed set for an even more glittering career as chief executive of Mercury Communications, the phone arm of Cable & Wireless. He was perceived to have vision; a background in management consultancy and systems, and his ability to apply technology to mass market financial ser-

Mike Harris made his name as vices made him a hot proper-chief executive of First Direct, ty. But he was ousted from his post of chief executive at Mercury last year and moved sideways to a development job, apparently after falling foul of Lord Young, chairman of Cable

> Still only 46, Mr Harris is regarded as a popular figure. One Mercury insider said yesterday: "He was very well-liked ... he was good at the big picture, a visionary." He introduced the "Imagine Programme" at Mercury, which encouraged management and staff to stop thinking of the company as a doubled to £219m.

telephone utility and rather as

and post.

products. A chemistry graduate from University College, London, his first information technology job was with CAP (now the SEMA Group) in 1970. He then moved to Midland Bank's management services for 14 years, and then to PA Consultants for a three-year stint in

management consultancy. During his three years with Mercury, the UK's second largest telecommunications company, profits more than

Prudential said it would apply the threat from the high street to the Bank of England for a banks' expansion into mortgages and insurance.

deposit-taking licence with the Both Lloyds and TSB have aim of offering a direct bank-ing service using the telephone led the "bancassurance" approach by cross-selling insur-ance and other products to The recent £15bn Lloyds banking customers. Lloyds TSB Bank bid for TSB, following on will be amongst the UK's from Lloyds' £1.8bn acquisition biggest insurers as well as mortof Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, highlighted gage lenders.

The new nead of Prudential's banking operation is Michael Harris, who made his vame by spearheading Midland Bank's introduction of the then-revointionary First Direct phone banking operation in the late 1980s and hopes to reverse this trend by stealing some of the banks' thunder.

Some analysts warned that big as the Pru is, it may still lack the sheer capital required to make a big dent in the high street banks' market share, not least because of the Bank of England's strict capital adequacy rules.

John De La Hey, an SG Stranss Tumbull analyst, said that

in the short term. Prudential's move would be felt more by building societies than banks.

Eyes on the prize: City names behind former chief executive who wants to buy out the founding family

#### Asda told to raise price of drugs

NIGEL COPE

Asda, the supermarket group leading the challenge against resale price maintenance, has been served with an injunction by two pharmaceuticals groups to prevent it from selling vitamins and minerals at cut prices.

The group lost part of its battle yesterday when a court ruled that from 4pm today eight of the discounted lines will return to the resale maintenance price, an increase of 25 per cent. The two companies involved are Roche Pharmaceuticals, which makes Sanatogen, and Seven Seas which produces the Seven Seas range of vitamin supplements.

A wider injunction was

thrown out but the two parties are due in court again next Thursday for a further hearing 70 remaining lines which are the subject of dispute.

Tony Campbell, Asda's trading director said: "We continue to fight to bring better value vitamins, minerals and supplements to our customers. We also urge the Office of fair Trading to speed up their investiga-tions of this outdated price-

fixing agreement." The injunctions follows Mon-day's action by Procter & Gamble, Warner Wellcome and Reckitt & Colman which threatened legal proceedings if Asda extended its discounting policy

to their products. Asda expressed disappointment the drugs firms had resorted to solicitors' letters before speaking to the group. The group mounted its chalenge to the resale price maintenance of non-prescription drugs last week when it cut the price of 80 vitamins and mineral products by up to 20 per cent. Boots and Sainsbury's have already responded with some price cuts, though a full-scale price war has not yet been

The mediations battle follows Asda's successful challenge to, the Net Book Agreement which

collapsed last month. Asda is also supportive of Tesco's threat to spark a mag-azine price war if the industry's distribution and wholesaling arrangements are not made more flexible.



Barry Dale: Bidding £1.2bn to wrest control of Littlewoods from the Moores family

# £1.2bn Littlewoods bid gets blue-chip backing

and CHRIS BLACKHURST

The battle for control of the Littlewoods retail and football pools business took a step forward yesterday when it emerged that Barry Dale, the former chief executive, has lined up powerful City backers to fund his £1.2bn bid for the

It is the first time details of the consortium have become known and its membership adds weight to Mr Dale's attempts to wrest control of the privately owned group away from the

The fresh development came as speculation grew that rival groups may also be interested

in bidding for the company.

Mr Dale sent an offer document to Littlewoods' advisers Kleinwort Benson on Friday confirming his £1.2bn offer. He capital groups, including the Prudential, Electra, Candover investments, Legal & General and Apax Partners.

A list of banks, which includes Chemical Bank, Deutsche, Fuji and Nations Bank of the United States, has been lined up to assume the company's debts and the merchant bank Dawney

Day is acting as adviser for the Dale would be chairman of the

Mr Dale's offer is believed to be worth 848p per ordinary share and 189p per preference share. This is thought to be a 70 per cent premium to the price received by Peter Moores, a family member who sold out last year. The deal values Littlewoods at a significant premium to its net asset value of £870m.

Littlewoods said: "We have yet to receive a formal offer but should we receive one we will respond to it." However, the company acknowledged Mr Dale's approach to Kleinwort Benson and said that it would be making a response.

According to the venture capital groups involved, Mr

John Coleman: Likely to inject some razzmatazz

group if the bid was successful. John Coleman, former chief

executive of Texas Homecare. has also toined the consortium and would become managing director of the retail division. This includes the Littlewoods stores, the home shopping business and the Index stores. His role would be to inject some razzmatazz into the Littlewoods outlets, which are seen as dowdy and old-fashioned.

Another director would be brought in to run the football pools division.

Fred Vinton, chairman of Electra, said: "It is the right time for the family to consider their options." He added that the decision "may not be purely financial", a reference to the complex emotional issues involved in such a large family owned company.

Mr Vinton said that the inbid and that he believed the business could be managed in its present form.

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The offer is not conditional on acquiring 100 per cent con-trol. It is believed the consortium would be comfortable with 75 per cent of the shares and for family members who wished to retain a stake to do so.

# High Court backs Lloyd's

DAVID HELLIER

The Lloyd's of London insurance market claimed a signifi-cant legal victory yesterday when a High Court judge up-held the principle of the "pay now, sue later" clause contained in agreements between

Lloyd's agents and its names.
The ruling, which will be the subject of an appeal, was described by Lloyd's as "significant" and "one which will produce positive benefits for the society and its members".

on Article 85 of the Treaty of

The test case was brought by Lloyd's managing agent, Marchant and Eliot Underwriting, over two unpaid cash calls of £6,000 by Dr Andrew Higgins, a member of its syndicates. Mr Justice Rix delivered his 58-page judgment yesterday. Dr Higgins's defence, based

Rome, which prohibits anticompetitive practices, argued that the "pay now, sue later" clause was anti-competitive. The judge said he could not understand how the obligation to pay outstanding cash calls could be said to distort competition. Lloyd's could not operate without such a concept; rather than giving Lloyd's a competitive edge it simply allowed it to com-

pete on a level playing field with

Lloyd's said the effect of the decision was to enable underwriting agents to obtain judgments against members who do not respond to cash calls and writs requiring payment. A spokesman said he hoped that members would see the judgment for what it was and that "those who fall in the category of won't rather than can't pay

Lloyd's financial recovery de-partment, said: "The judgment will enable agents in the mar-ket to take positive action to recover many outstanding cash calls. It also represents an unambiguous warning to those who won't pay their Lloyd's loss-es. I hope sincerely that Lloyd's can begin discussions with those members and, as a result, avoid costly and time-consuming

Susan Dingwall, partner and head of Dibbs Lupton Broomance group in London, who acted for Marchant & Eliot, said: "This is a significant ruling, which will be welcomed not only by the Lloyd's agency community but also by those names who have been paying their loss-es, and by potential investors in the Lloyd's market."

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#### Minister to intervene in £700m gas row

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

The Government has pledged

support for British Gas's efforts to renegotiate long-term con-tracts with North Sea producers, which are forcing the company to buy more gas than it can sell. Tim Eggar, Minister for Energy and Industry, said he could not take a direct role but would act as "moderator or facilitator" if asked, or "if I thought matters were getting out of hand". Mr Eggar's statement at a

seminar in London marks a sig-nificant change in his public

stance on the contracts, which

until now the Government has

said were a matter for the in-

dustry. It comes amid mounting commercial pressure on British

Gas, which by the end of this

year will have been forced to buy about £700m worth of gas which it cannot yet sell. Some City analysts believe that the figure will soar well beyond £1bn within a few years. Mr Eggar said that the in-

troduction of competition has

"changed the underlying basis of these contracts", which were entered into when British Gas was a monopoly buyer and seller of gas throughout the UK. He said that extending competition to domestic customers, beginning next year, would put further pressure on the company.

"British Gas can no longer assume all the market risks of selling gas. In the industrial and commercial market, BG's share has fallen from virtually 100 per cent in 1990 to around 35 per cent today," he said.

Mr Eggar said that failure to renegotiate the contracts, which is being strongly resisted by some large producers, could have "wider implications for the the development of the UK continental shelf".

The company was further embarrassed yesterday by a

lack of popularity and showed that its public believes it gives poor value for money.

The Mintel survey showed that in the eyes of consumers, British Gas lags other household names in value for money and trustworthiness. It also falls behind in terms of being in touch with customers. Mintel International said that

the 1995 survey coincided with two negative news items for British Gas: the impending pay increase to Cedric Brown and the decision to allow discounts to direct-debit customers.

Boots, the high-street chemists, came top in four of the five categories. The only one it failed to win was the social and environmental awareness poll, topped by Body Shop.

# business

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'Shareholders should look hard at the justification for

keeping this monolithic business intact. The parts may be worth more than

# British Gas could ditch its awkward customers For British Gas, the drawback of serving most of the households in Britain is that

there are few people without an opinion on the company, and most of it is unflattering. A Mintel survey yesterday confirmed that pub-lic esteem for Cedric Brown and his team is at a low ebb, which is hardly surprising after the hammering they have had over the last year.

The customer is always right, of course, but in this case British Gas has a perfectly simple way out of its public relations difficulty - get rid of the troublesome domestic customers altogether. Instead, the company could better serve its shareholders by concentrating on gas production, international expansion and the safe and cash-rich monopoly business of transmission.

This is not a fanciful notion. Indeed, it has already been and gone in the last few years, and looks like coming back again. A Monopolies Commission report in 1993 recommended divestment of the supply side of British Gas by 1998, which caused a storm of protest from Cedric Brown.

The Government overruled the commis-

sion and backed Mr Brown, but in return demanded that the introduction of competition to the domestic supply business be brought forward several years, to next year, when a pilot programme begins. But the issue has not gone away. It has

become clear that Richard Giordano, the chairman, sees the rejection out of hand of the monopolies recommendation to divest as a mistake. (He arrived after the event.)

supply side of British Gas will be put back on the agenda. Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, finds nothing wrong with the idea, if the right buyer can be found. A split would make her job easier, since the relationship between the supplier of the gas and the organisation that transmits it around the countryside - the owner of the gas grid would then truly be at arm's length.

British Gas has had approaches by energy businesses interested in acquiring parts of its regional gas supply network. An approach does not equal a negotiation, let alone an offer, and Mr Brown, gas enthusiast man and boy, is unlikely to want anything to do with the idea. Indeed, for British Gas to sell an isolated part of the supply business would be to shoot itself in the foot. In an era of deregulation, when any supplier can move into another's area, there is no point in helping competitors acquire billing systems that make them more effective predators. It makes sense to sell all or nothing.

To find a buyer for the whole supply business may not be easy as competition increases, as it undoubtedly will in the wake of gas supply deals such as that announced between Seeboard and Amoco on Monday - a partnership aimed at encroaching on British Gas markets. Demerger rather than a trade sale might be a better answer, though it would be hard to promote the

Other gas suppliers, currently competing with British Gas in the commercial market, are convinced that selling the domestic are convinced that selling the down and it is clear how many new competitors are entering the fray. Either way, British Gas shareholders should look hard at the justification for keeping this monolithic business intact. The parts may be worth more than the whole.

#### A harsh message for manufacturers

That on earth has happened to manu-W facturers this year that has caused the biggest fall in their confidence since the exnge rate mechanism fiasco? After all, for most of the year the economy has been growing above trend, exports have been buoyant and companies' coffers are full of cash. The Confederation of British Industry

says it is all due to the slower growth of orders. Domestic orders have actually fallen a bit in the latest quarter and export orders have slowed from the record a year ago. Per-haps manufacturers should look to the example of services, where output growth has remained above trend - up more than 3 per cent in the year to the third quarter. The reason is that in many services prices have been flat or falling.

Manufacturers have certainly not passed on all of the increases in the cost of imported raw materials they faced earlier this year. But they have increased output prices, even

substantial increases in export prices.

The pace at which firms are raising domes tic prices has slowed. Yet they are still hoping to achieve much bigger price increases during the next four months, despite their failure to push through their expected price rises in earlier months. The market is sending a message to manufacturers that hope to raise prices: it cannot be done without hitting orders and output.
There is more to the manufacturing slow-

down than this price effect, since interest rate increases have achieved their aim of slowing the demand side as well. But where there is sustained, non-inflationary growth it is a fact that higher prices will also be penalised by lower demand.

#### The Pru won't find it easy to be a bank

The insurance industry has moved far more L slowly into banking than the banks have moved the other way into insurance. One simple reason for this, which enthusiasts for Prudential's move into direct banking by telephone should remember, is that bank-ing is capital-intensive and the clearing banks are generally much bigger and have

lot more capital than insurers. This capital intensity is not because of the

phone banking has got rid of the need for branches and cut some of the entry costs for newcomers - but because of the scale of the funds that central banks insist must be dedfunds that central banks insist must be dedicated to supporting the basic business of banking. A big clearing bank must put up at least £8 of its own capital to back every £100 of lending, to ensure there is money available to pay depositors if loans go sour. A smaller start-up banking operation such as the Pru's may well have to find twice as much before the supervisors will let it loase on the public. That capital is expensive to service public. That capital is expensive to service.

The Pru's immediate ambition seems to be to persuade customers for its maturing investment products to keep their money in the organisation by depositing it with the inhouse bank. Whether customers will prefer to trust their savings to a little bank, even with the Pru's brand name, rather than a big clearer or building society is open to ques tion. Short-term deposits are fickle and chase the best rates advertised in the Saturday personal finance columns.

Even if that works, for the Pru to move nwards to become a serious lending bank - with all the risks that brings - is of another order of difficulty altogether. The Pru's ini-tiative is an interesting new development in the financial services marketing war. But the company has certainly not stumbled on the insurance industry's answer to Direct Line, Royal Bank of Scotland's devastating onslaught on the insurance markets.

# Sharp fall in optimism prompts CBI warning

Economics Correspondent

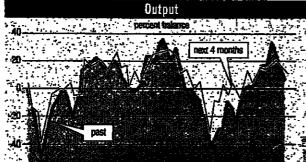
The biggest drop in business optimism since Britain tumbled out of the European exchange rate mechanism in 1992 confirms the slowdown in manufacturing, according to a Confederation of British In-

Andrew Buxton, chairman of the CBI's economic affairs committee, said: "The slowdown in growth indicated by the survey result is a warning signal."

The quarterly survey of industrial trends in manufacturing showed the balance of firms reporting higher output was the lowest for two years. New orders also increased at their slowest rate for two years. Investment intentions have fallen since last quarter.

However, Mr Buxton cautioned against over-reaction: "We are certainly not talking about a recession." Output and orders were still rising, with growing exports off-setting the dip in home demand. The conditions for sustained recovery

were still in place, he said. The CBI would nevertheless like base rates to fall after the Budget. "We do not want a Budget that cuts taxes so much it puts upward pressure on interest rates," Mr Buxton said. Andrew Smith, the Shadow

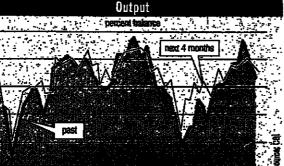


chief secretary to the Treasury, said: "The fact that the CBI survey shows businesses scaling back on investment suggests that the sustainability of the recovery will be hit."

The survey showed confi-dence has fallen for the second quarter in a row, with an especially sharp dip in big companies' ontimism. The balance of firms reporting more optimism over those feeling less opti-

with plus 13 six months ago. The sharp fall in corporate feel-good reflects slower growth in export orders and a fall in domestic orders - both lower than the expectations reported in the last CBI survey.

Total new orders have increased at the slowest rate for two years. A positive balance of 11 per cent of firms reported



higher export orders, down year, and a negative balance of minus 3 per cent in the case of domestic orders. Plans to invest in new plant

and equipment remain positive, but have fallen back. A positive balance of 12 per cent of firms intend to spend more in the year ahead, down from 17 per cent in July. Ian Shepherdson, an economist at HSBC Markets, mistic was minus 11, compared said it was disappointing to see falling investment expectations.

Levels of stocks increased for the second quarter running. Mr Buxton said a stocks buildup could depress output in fu-Employment manufacturing rose slightly dur-

ing the past three months, the first increase reported since mid-1989. However, companies expect the long-term fall in



employment to resume over

The survey brought better news on prices which rose at the slowest rate for a year, and by less than expected. The balance of firms that raised prices over those that cut them fell to 9 per cent from much higher levels earlier in the year.

The weaker-than-expected results led some City analysts to revive the case for lower base rates. Simon Briscoe, at Nikko Europe, said: "The Bases of England will be hard-pressed to whip up inflation worries after this survey. The case has now been made for policy-easing

over the next year." The gilts market reacted favourably to the weak CBI survey, closing slightly higher. But trading was quiet in advance of today's £3bn auction.

# Boddington chief due for £500,000

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Alan Smith, managing director of Boddington, is in line for a pay-off of more than £500,000 after four months' work at the pubs-to-nursing homes group. He is expected to leave following the completion next month of Greenalls' £518m

agreed takeover of Boddington. Hubert Reid, chairman of Boddington, is to become nonexecutive director of Greenalls. but the company says it has not made a decision on the future of the other directors.

However, Mr Smith, and the finance director, Alan Rothwell, are not expected to stay. Greenalls will have to honour

existing contracts, and its offer document says it will buy out all unexercised share options. This means directors and employees could collect up to

£8m, with Mr Reid due to receive about £1.4m. Mr Smith moved to Boddington in June from Kingfisher's DIY chain, B&Q, where he was managing director, to bring

some retail experience to the pubs group. He is paid £165,000 a year and has a two-year contract, and will also cash in under a bonus scheme linked to Boddington's financial performance.

Under the executive share option scheme, Mr Smith holds 129,411 options at 225p, though they would not normally be exercisable until 1998. At Greenalls' bid price of 412p a share, the options are worth £203,000. Greenalls' offer document



A profitable four months: Alan Smith, managing director of Boddington

says: "If the offer becomes unconditional, Greenalls intends to make appropriate proposals to participants in the Boddington share option scheme in respect of options which remain

About 500 jobs are expected to be lost at Boddington under Greenalls' plan to close four offices in the Warrington area and

North-west England. The plan is to save about £18m a year. In addition to paying the £8m or so to buy out the Boddington options, Greenalls faces reorganisation costs of about £23m. Mounting the bid will

cost about £16m. Both groups, whose combined value will be about

half the 44 wholesale depots in £1.5bn, disposed of their breweries as the industry restructured following the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report in 1988.

They have made good profits thanks to the over-supply of brewing capacity. But the merger is necessary to maintain the pubs' purchasing power as the brewers rationalise capacity.

#### Managers pay £55m for Golden Wonder

NIGEL COPE

Golden Wonder, one of the UK's best-known brands of crisps, has been sold to its mangement for £54.6m. The deal includes the Wotsits, Nik Naks and Wheat Crunchies brands as well as those sold under supermarket own labels.

The buyout of the Golden Wonder snacks business is being backed by Legal & General Ventures and led by Clive Sharpe, formerly a director of Golden Wonder and chief executive of Homepride Foods. Once a powerful force in the

snacks business, Golden Wonder has been struggling in the so-called "crisp wars" where Walkers, part of PepsiCo and KP, owned by the beleaguered United Biscuits group, are the dominant players. The increasing buying power of the supermarket groups whose own-label crisps have been taking share has added to the squeeze.

The industry has been plagued by over-capacity and a price war that saw the price of a supermarket six-pack of crisps fall to just 29p at one stage last year. Golden Wonder made profits of £9m on sales of £150m in the year to June and had net assets of £72m.

The sale completes Dalgety's disposal of its consumer businesses, which were put on the block in February. This followed the company's £700m ecquisition of the European pet food businesses of Quaker Foods. Dalgety has raised £293m from the disposal programme. It had already sold Homepride sances for £58m and the Pot Noodles bot snacks business for £180m.

Dalgety shares rose 5p to

#### One-stop advice: Minister rejects criticism as Business Links prepare to expand to 240 offices Small business help network goes national

PETER RODGERS

The Government has raised its target for new Business Links offices - one-stop advice centres for small businesses - to at least 240 to be open by next March.
Richard Page, the small firms
minister at the Department of

Trade and Industry, said the project was now ready to be put on a national footing as a network with coverage through the whole of England. Mr Page, in an interview with the Independent, rejected criti-

cisms of the effectiveness of Business Links as "unfair and impatient", because so few of the 140 offices now set up had been fully commissioned for more than a year. Those that had settled down,

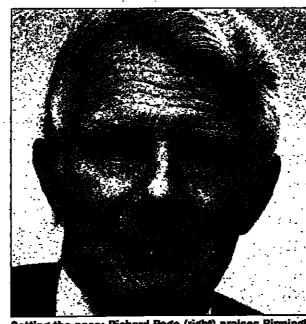
such as the Birmingham Business Link, were producing "superb" stories about their help to business locally.
"We certainly have not got 140 fully up to speed delivering

every service to the efficiency we would want to see. Some have just opened their doors and London is not even up and running," Mr Page said. He wanted the service to be operating nationally and work-

ing to high common standards before critics should be allowed to make judgements about performance. Mr Page promised there would be strict monitoring of service standards. The DTI also

planned to employ "mystery

ness managers to test Business Links offices. The Business Links began with a small number of pilot projects in 1993, building to 100 offices this spring. The current total of 140 is expected to expand by another 100 by the end of the financial year. Earlier this year the DTI estimated that the number would reach 200 by the



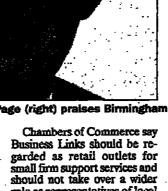
Setting the pace: Richard Page (right) praises Birmingham

The Links offices, and the similar enterprise networks in Scotland, are designed to provide a single retail outlet for all the DTT's services for small business, as well as those of the Chambers of Commerce, Training and Enterprise Councils,

gionally based organisations. They are aimed at start-up business and existing firms that are expanding. The target mar-ket is firms with at least 10 cmployees. Until recently, small messes have had to go to a shoppers" posing as small busiconfusingly large number of sources for help and advice.

local authorities and other re-

The TECs and other bodies involved are acting as partners with the DTI in the individual Business Links. But in some areas there are reports of serious teething troubles, such as disagreements over demarcation lines between the new offices and the older organisations that originally provided some of the services.



role as representatives of local

Mr Page said that because of the embryonic state of many of the Business Links, the DTI had held back from a national campaign to promote the service, and marketing had been done only at a local level where individual offices were up and The national launch of the

service is to be announced next Tuesday in a presentation at the Queen Elizabeth II conference centre in London by Ian Lang, President of the Board of The Business Links will employ at least 600 personal busi-

export advisers, of whom eight

are already in place. The other

Business Link, where Alan Dow has 8,000 clients advisers will have expertise in design, innovation and technology and Mr Page said he wanted the Business Links to work closely with clearing banks and other local sources of

become increasingly independent of state aid, by charging for their services: "I want them to be businesslike." The DTI predicts that the total turnover of the Business

Links offices will be about £100m a year by 1998-99, of which 20 to 25 per cent will be fee income from small firms a proportion Mr Page wants to increase in subsequent years. Earlier this year, the DTI announced an extra £100m of

funding for government advice services to be delivered through Business Links, spread over ness advisers and about 200 four years from the 1995-96 specialists, including about 80 The Birmingham Business

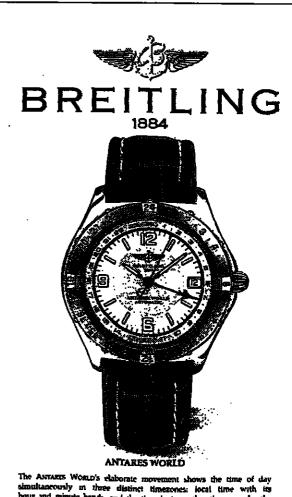
now has turnover of £7m, of which about 25 per cent is already in the form of contributions from clients rather than

the Government.

Birmingham has 130 staff, of whom 26 are employed directly. He also wanted to them to The rest are advisers operating under contract and staff seconded from Tecs. Birmingham City Council, the Chamber of Commerce and the West Midlands government offices.

Alan Dow, chief executive of the Birmingam Business Link, said that with 8,000 clients, the organisation had reached the stage where it could in theory even be privatised and survive, though that would restrict the range of services to those that were economic on a fee charging basis.

Other services the government is keen to see provided to small businesses on a subsidised basis might have to be dropped if the organisation were to be Link, one of the pilot projects,



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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

#### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

Edited by TOM STEVENSON

# Wolseley profit tap springs leak

Wolsełey : at a glance

who has been crying wolf for as long as anyone can remember, looks like having his eternal pessimism proved right in his last year as chairman and

managing director of Wolseley. The Eevore of the building materials sector, he regularly accompanies stunning profits growth with a warning that it cannot last.

This year, however, he was un-equivocal - profits at the world's leading plumbers merchant will be no higher in the year to July 1996 than they

were in the period just reported. His gloomy prognosis, hardly a surprise at the end of what has been a pretty dismal reporting season for all the building groups, took the shine off otherwise impeccable figures. Profits jumped 21 per cent to £245.4m, struck from a 16 per cent increase in sales to £3.78bn. Earnings per share of 25.4p allowed a well-covered dividend of 9.8p, both figures 17 per cent higher

than a year ago. Looking ahead, the problems are across the board. At home, trading, which picked up before last Christmas, fell away sharply in the final quarter of the financial year. The French housing market failed to revive after the presidential elections, while growth in Austria slowed and competition increased since the country joined the

European Union in January.
Similar trends emerged in the US, where Wolseley has built a sizeable chain of 368 plumbing and heating sup-ply outlets and 76 lumber depots. After a strong first half, growth tailed off worryingly in the second six months.

That is the bad news. The good is that Wolseley enters what it believes is only a pause in growth in exceptional shape financially. Gearing of 13 per cent is inconsequential, which means it can continue to boister flat underlying markets with growth through acquisitions. Cash flow is strong and return on capital employed an impressive 20.2 per cent.

On the basis of flat forecast profits this year of £240m and £266.5m in the 12 months to July 1997, the shares stand on a prospective price/earnings ratio for calendar 1996 of just over 12. That compares with a sector average of 11, a 10 per cent premium that is maintained in 1997 when Wolseley's rating of 11.1 times earnings compares with the building sector's 9.8 times.

That premium rating is probably justified given Wolseley's remarkable record over the years and after a 20 per

1994, the shares look safe enough. With three top directors due to retire at the same time next July, however, it would be surprising if the market didn't hold fire for a while. Unexciting.

#### Warning signs at McKechnie

McKechnie has had the look of a welloiled machine of late, shifting deftly out of metal bashing and into plastics and consumer markets such as curtain and shower rails. Profits have been boosted by a recovery in demand in many of its markets combined with the fruits of an acquisition spree over the past two years - two large deals fol-lowed by eight smaller purchases have kept the momentum going.

The share price has risen accordingly, more than doubling from 192p in 1990 to more than 454p, justified, at first glance, by yesterday's results that looked like more of the same. Pre-tax profits were up 28 per cent to £45m on sales up a similar amount to £532m. Linread, the fasteners group ac-

**Five-Year record** 

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Gearing (%)

quired for £26m last year, made its first full-year contribution of £ 5.6m and the plastics division performed strongly with profits up from £4m to £14m.

But there are some warning signs. The company said it had noticed a "pause in demand" in the current financial year which may lead to slower growth in the first half. Perhaps more worrying is the sharp setback in the Australian housing market where Mc-Kechnie has some exposur

In addition, McKechnie still achieves half its sales and more than half its profits in the UK, where a recovery in the housing and consumer markets is proving elusive. McKechnie's con-sumer products division includes businesses in curtains, blinds and shelving as well as door furniture where it supplies B&Q. This leaves the company exposed to the weak housing market which has already hit the DIY retail-

The company plans to redress the balance with further growth in Europe and North America. Even so the warning was enough to knock 12p off the shares, which closed at 442p.

NatWest Securities is forecasting profits of £51m this year, putting them on a forward rating of 12.

Share price

That is not den outlook for the U and the picture cloudy, there is shares to move an enough for now.	K economy tr in Australia little reason	ncertain equally for the

#### **'Pubs for nice** people' do nicely

It is hard to imagine why anyone would want to drink in a place mar-keted under the sign "Unspoilt pubs for nice people" but the rapid growth of Tom Cobleigh, the Yorkshire and East Midlands pub operator, suggests the company's food-focused, family

offering is pulling the customers in.

Very much a child of the Beer Orders' transformation of the British pub market, Tom Cooleigh is coming to the mar-ket next month with a placing to raise about £22m. It has grown fast since foundation only three years ago, and now boasts 46 managed pubs, under the Tom Cobleigh brand and 36 tenanted sites, trading as The Nice Pub Company.

Typically large, out-of-town sites

with large car parks, the pubs are based on the premise that food sells beer and they generate more than a third of turnover from the sale of meals, well above the average for Britain's 63,000 pubs. An ambitious opening programme should see up to 18 pubs a year

added for the foreseeable future.
Rapid growth has been reflected in fast-growing profits, which have grown from a £52,000 loss in the year to March 1993 to a profit of £1.6m from sales of £14.8m in the latest full year. In the six months to the end of September, profits jumped again to £1.04m from sales of £9.5m.

The company sets great store by staff training and has an imaginative approach to motivation, including cash bonuses for appropriate responses to staff observers dropping into other pubs posing as customers. The success of the formula is reflected in strong growth in turnover per pub and return on

If Cobleigh is half as successful as JD Wetherspoon and Regent Inns, shareholders will be well rewarded. It is encouraging that EAC, the venture capital backer which will own 50 per cent of the shares after flotation, is holding onto its stake after first deal-

#### Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

# True love and bubbly at a special Virgin price

A Virgin long-hanl crew quakes in its boots knowing that the bearded one will shortly have their guts for garters. There has been the most appalling mid-air blunder and Richard Branson is about to go ballistic.

What was surely a rare chance to impress turned into a public relations disaster when Nick Bernheim, a Los Angeles screenwriter, board-ed Virgin's Dallas to London flight with his girlfriend, Eliz-abeth Utz. Doubtless impressed by the legroom ("if your feet touch the seat in front you're on the wrong plane") Mr Bernheim was overcome with a strong desire to propose marriage.

Mrs Elizabeth Bernheim (screenwriters know how to woo) takes up the tale. "It was kinda nice," she says. "It is my first time to Europe and I was watching cartoons or something when Nicky suddenly proposed. I started crying, I guess, and the women next to us heard it all and told the steward. So far, so good. The cap-

tain duly relayed the engage-ment over the cabin radio and there followed a thunderous ovation throughout the fuselage. A Virgin steward was dispatched to the happy couple with half a bottle of champagne. The moment was complete. Well, that is until the steward reappeared with a bill for £4.95 and presented it to the startled woman in the next seat. "We were just so embarrassed," explains Mrs Bernheim from her honeymoon suite in Paris. Neither would the romantic accept reimbursement.

The casting of the film of the Barings disaster is proving to be trickier than at first thought. Our sources in the Frankfurt slammer report that Nick Leeson, architect of the £1bn broubaha, is not happy at the suggestion of Hugh Grant for the lead. For that matter he is not wild about Miranda Richardson in the supporting role of his beloved wife, claim-

The actor Mr Leeson thinks will best portray him is Nick Berry, the saturnine former *Eastenders* star. As for the role of Ms Leeson, we are happy to screen hopefuls for a fee.



Still, the Virgin incident could pale into insignificance compared with the expected passenger revolt at KLM. Royal Dutch Airlines introduces a smoking ban on all its European flights on 29 October. According to Bu-reau Voorlichting Tabak, a not-entirely-unbiased tobac-

co lobby, this will result in a quarter of all Dutch passengers switching to another airline. KLM is unbowed, claiming that its non-smoking policy will attract more ngers than it loses. Probably from Virgin.

**Iomorrow** sees the launch of the keenly awaited Corporate Strategies of the Top 100 UK Companies of the Future.
Published by McGraw Hill,

ing that she is too old.

A stiff letter is on its way to | the seminal work has been compiled by the Corporate Research Foundation, working in cahoots with a platoon of Financial Times hacks. It was due out in April.

The surprise among the predictable entries – Marks & pencer, British Airways, Glaxo Wellcome and Rentokil - is Davies Arnold Cooper, the law firm best known for working with victims of the Piper Alpha disaster, the Hillsborough tragedy and the Bradford football stadium fire. Led by the never knowingly undersold David Mackintosh (he of the Oxford Union debates et al.) the firm now boasts annual fee income

The burning question is why the delay in publication? Some have suggested that it was to allow further research on Pearson. Unhappily the FT owner is still not included.

Seen in the window of the Nextep employment agency in London's Coopers Row. "Russian-speaking PA to MDir of Russian Oil compa-ny, SW1 – £16K. Free bottle of vodka to 1st applicant to walk thru the door.

# Recs could be forced to split up

Montedison-Gemina merger collapses

Industrial Correspondent

Offer, the electricity watchdog, warned that the regional electricity companies might in future be forced to split their supply operations - in which they sell to the customer - from the distribution of electricity over the wires. Professor Stephen Littlechild, director-general of Offer, said he would consider such a separation in preparation for competition in the domestic market in 1998.

The threat to the fundamental structure of the industry emerges in Professor Littlechild's response to the recent re-

Italy's most ambitious merger

plan in years, the creation of a

giant industrial conglomerate

through the fusion of the loss-

making Montedison-Ferruzzi

group with the holding com-

pany, Gemina, has collapsed fol-

lowing the launch of a judicial

**ANDREW GUMBEL** 

Magaqiin (i)

Varidyda (I)

into Medico (F)

port from the Trade and In- ceeded in recent months and after 1998 when domestic com-dustry Select Committee on planned acquisitions by North petition in both markets is in the electricity sector.

of the Recs' distribution and supply activities. It would be ers Commission if I were to con-

"In the context of the 1998 dis-regulatory clearance. whether to take further steps to require the greater separation open to me to make reference clude that the present position is against the public interest."

The regulator's comments come at a sensitive time in the industry, which is in the throes of a wave of takeovers. Bids for three regional firms have suc-

investigation into Gemina's ac-

In a severe blow to the pres-

tige of Italian business leaders

involved in the deal, including

Gianni Agnelli, chairman of

Fiat. Gemina announced late on

Monday night that it was post-

poning the merger indefinitely

because market conditions were

counting practices.

0.1m (0.07m) 0.7p (27p) nii (-)

45 3m (35 3m) 33.6p (27.1p) 11p (9.75p)

10.5m (8.41m) -1.34m (-0.31m) -30.38p (-5.39p) nil (nil)

18.6m (16.3m) 8.52m (11.3m) 5.91p (8.82p) 2.5p (2p)

6.44m (6.27m) 0.97m (0.87m) 5.5p (4.8p) 2.0p (mll)

J,

3 78tm (3 25tm) 245m (202m) 29 72p (25 39p) 9.8p (8 36p)

11 3m (9.22m) 2.05m (1.70m) 13.2p (11.4p) 2.65p (2.4p)

COMPANY RESULTS

ore intermediated (1) 33.7m (23.1m) 5.48m (3.75m) 13.2p (10.9p) 1.62p (1.375p)

West Water, National Power Professor Littlechild said: and PowerGen are awaiting

Littlechild is considering radical changes in the businesses of the regional companies could be seen as deterrent for further bids. Investors in the industry to the Monopolies and Merg- are still smarting from his unexpected decision earlier this year to re-open price controls agreed only months previously.

The responses to the Select Committee also show that the Government may consider merging the gas and electricity ter of good wor regulators, Ofgas and Offer, they do already."

At the same time, Montedi-

son's financial arm. Ferfin, an-

nounced it was seeking more

than L1,000bn (£351.4m) in

new capital - a signal that it was

already looking for other solu-

The decision to create Italy's

second-largest industrial con-

glomerate, producing every-

thing from chemicals to

encyclopedias, caused a sensa-

September because it had been

negotiated in secret and con-

centrated considerable power in

the hands of a few players -among them Mr Agnelli and Enrico Cuccia, the 87-year-old

honorary chairman of Medio-

The deal was never popular

with smaller shareholders, who

considered they had been used as pawns in a high-level power

banca, the merchant bank.

tion when it was announced in

tions to its debt problems.

place. But the Government stresses that there is no case for a merger until that time and also ulatory panel, rather than an individual watchdog would be more effective in each industry.

29.7

The Government also attacks the committee's call to impose a duty on regulators to give reasons for the decisions they make. "The Government eschews unnecessary regulation. It therefore sees no need for a. formal requirement [on the regulators] to do what, as a matter of good working practice,

game, and raised eyebrows

among international investors who questioned the wisdom of

creating a loss-making behe-moth when large conglomerates are going out of fashion.

weeks ago, when Milan magis-

trates announced they were placing 10 senior Gemina ex-

ecutives under investigation for

irregularities, including an L800bn hole in the accounting

figures for the past 18 months.

Gemina's share price, which

The investigation is continuing

had stood at L908 at the time of the merger announcement,

has dropped in the past six

weeks to about 1.600 - creating

serious arithmetical problems in

the nuts and bolts of the merg-

er. A temporary postponement

had already been announced a

The severest blow came two

# Scholl board scrapes through in vote called by rebel shareholders

The board of Scholl, the bealthcare products group, narrowly survived a crucial vote called by rebel shareholders at an ill-tempered extraordinary meeting

The meeting was called by a group of dissident shareholders who want the company to sell itself and who proposed that three of their representatives should replace three current board members.

The dissident shareholders the resolution that would have led to the new board appointments and 40.5 per cent of the vote for the one that would have resulted in the three board members being deposed. Both votes required a majority.

Gordon Stevens, chairman, started the meeting by calling for questions on the resolutions and then tried to stymie Brian Myerson, a director of the UK Active Value Fund and one of the rebel shareholders, when Mr Myerson said peace talks held before the meeting had broken down due to the "intransigence

Mr Stevens told him a broadranging speech was not appro-priate for the meeting, before giving way to him on condition he did not give "a long tirade", and that he kept to the narrow subject of the resolutions. After a couple of minutes of heated exchanges between the two men another shareholder

declared: "Mr Myerson's re-

of the board".

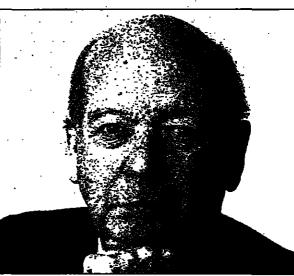
marks are entirely appropriate.
You ought to hear the debate." Mr Myerson, encouraged by this, said the board had been vehemently opposed to estabwould be worth more if it were sold to a third party. Its structural fault was its high distrib-

ution costs. Mr Myerson said the board's behaviour had been question-able. "Why concentrate on personal attacks on ourselves, with the hiring of private investigators? We are not going away, we won 41.9 per cent support for will intensify our campaign," he

After Mr Myerson sat down, Julian Treger, his colleague and fellow director of the UK Active Value Fund, took to the floor and immediately clashed with the Scholl chairman over whether Mr Stevens had earlier confirmed to him that he had

received takeover approaches. "I would not have talked to you about something like that under any circumstances," Mr Stevens firmed.

"I attempted to explain to you that I found your analysis su-perficial in the extreme. Please do not put words into my mouth," he added. "I am sick and tired of these innuendoes you and your group describe."
Mr Treger said he and the fel-low dissident shareholders, who own just more than 15 per cent in Scholl, cared very much about the company. "We have a £23m investment, far larger than yours," he told the board.



Stormy meeting: Gordon Stevens, chairman of Scholl

closed down 5p at 210p. It emerged yesterday that

the Scholl board had made last-minute attempts to cancel the meeting by alleging there was a technical problem with the resolutions that prevented them from being put to the meeting.

A lawyer for the rebels said
he was contacted by the company 22 hours before the meeting and told there were legal objections to the resolutions. The UK Active Value Fund then arranged for a meeting with a sions with IO Hambro & Part-

average purchase price is be-lieved to be under 170p a share, so it is showing a healthy prof-it so far. Yesterday Scholl shares tion to force the board to put the resolutions to shareholders, when the board backed down. After the uneeting the Scholl After the meeting the Scholl chairman said he hoped the DEMONSTRATERIALS

management would be allowed to drive forward the company's strategy without further cost and distraction. Mr Stevens said during the meeting that the rebei shareholder affair had cost the company about £500,000 in additional costs.

One board director said it had taken up 14 hours a day for seven weeks.

In spite of the rebels' defeat, the board will continue discusjudge in the Company Court to ners with a view to appointing The UK Active Value Fund's try to get a mandatory injunc- a non-executive director.

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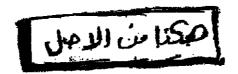
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DATA BANK

FT-SE 250

Gilts Index

92.57 -0.10







market report/shares

# Takeover spotlight turns on vulnerable CE Heath

FT-SE 100 3,535.3 +3.8 There is a growing suspicion that CE Heath, one of the 3,904.8 \_-7.7 City's hard-pressed insurance FT-SE 350 1,759.4 +0.8 subject of corporate activity. The sadly neglected shares suddenly came to life, climb-629.5m shares, 27,032 bargains

ing 8p (after 11p) to 158p in, for what has become a tired and wilting stock market constituent, busy trading.

They are still penilously close to their low. Their high, 517p

reached four years ago, is but a distant memory for long-standing stareholders.

The group has been hit by tough trading in the insurance market, the Lloyd's of London disaster as well as falling pub-lic confidence in the life and

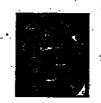
pensions industry.

It is clearly vulnerable to a takeover strike, with an overseas group the most likely predator. James Capel, putting a break-up value of 240p on the shares, helped stoke up bid

But it is the feeling that the first signs of a revival are de-tectable at the battered broker which has created the current round of interest. And if the dividend is held, as some expect, the shares are returning more than 13 per cent.

Heath has been cutting its overheads and drawing in much-needed cash through asset sales. On Monday it realised £16m from its 50 per cent holding in a Hong Kong group. Earlier, it unloaded an Australian interest for £28.7m.

There are suggestions its telesales broking operation is making unexpectedly strong headway, but it is the possibility Heath is edging nearer to floating its computer side that could provide the main impe-tus. In current market conditions its Datasure and Peterborough Software offshoots could command a rich price.



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

awaiting today's £3bn govern-ment stock auction but, nevertheless, appreciating the rather calmer conditions in the foreign exchange markets and a firm New York opening. Gilts gave further ground. The FT-SE 100 index moved

narrowly, ending 3.8 points higher at 3,535.3. Glaxo Wellcome followed Monday's upsurge with an 8.5p (after 22p) gain to 857.5p. Drug second-liners were back in demand, with Celltech and Oxford Molecular sought-after. Banks also had their fans, with Merrill Lynch said to be

timates of the cash inflow National Westminster Bank will achieve from the planned sale of its American banking side. NatWest gained 14.5p to 651.5p. Standard Chartered, up 14p at 499p, also gathered support on revived takeover gossip and Bank of Scotland edged forward 2.5p to 258p. Prudential Corporation's planned move into direct bank-

ing did not, as might have been expected, have an inhibiting impact on the sector. Indeed, it prompted thoughts BAT Industries could feel the need to round off its financial

side with a banking buy. T&N was ruffled by more as-

160p. Holliday Chemicals, computer hardware and soft-meeting analysts, rose 8p to 194p. Caradon, the building Hopes are riding high the materials group, was heavily

materials group, was heavily traded, sticking at 198p.
Northern Foods again edged forward. The shares improved 2p to 186p in often brisk trading. The group, which has found trading difficult, has met City investors but the nagging feeling that corporate action lurks is continuing to influence the price.

influence the price.

Acorn Computer gained 5p to 158p and Magnum Power, reflecting a new patent for protecting computer data if there is a power failure, jumped 26p to 142p. Magnotia, a loss-making

picture frame group, plunged 11p to 29p as Northampton Ac-quisitions bid 27p a share. The offer is already past the post, with shareholders representing 58.47 per cent of Magnolia

81's 185's 185's 185's 185's 185's 185's 185's

group will produce a sharp profits improvement. There has been market talk sales are running significantly ahead of budget and Tim Steer at Merrill Lynch is looking for half-year profits, due in De-cember, of £1.4m, up from

£500,000 last year. First Leisure Corporation blissfully ignored the NatWest Securities profit downgrade, gaining 5p to 328p. Middlesex, which has an-

nounced a joint venture with RIZ to cover exploration of its Nevada properties, is expect-ed to strengthen its board to-day with a significant appointment. The shares held

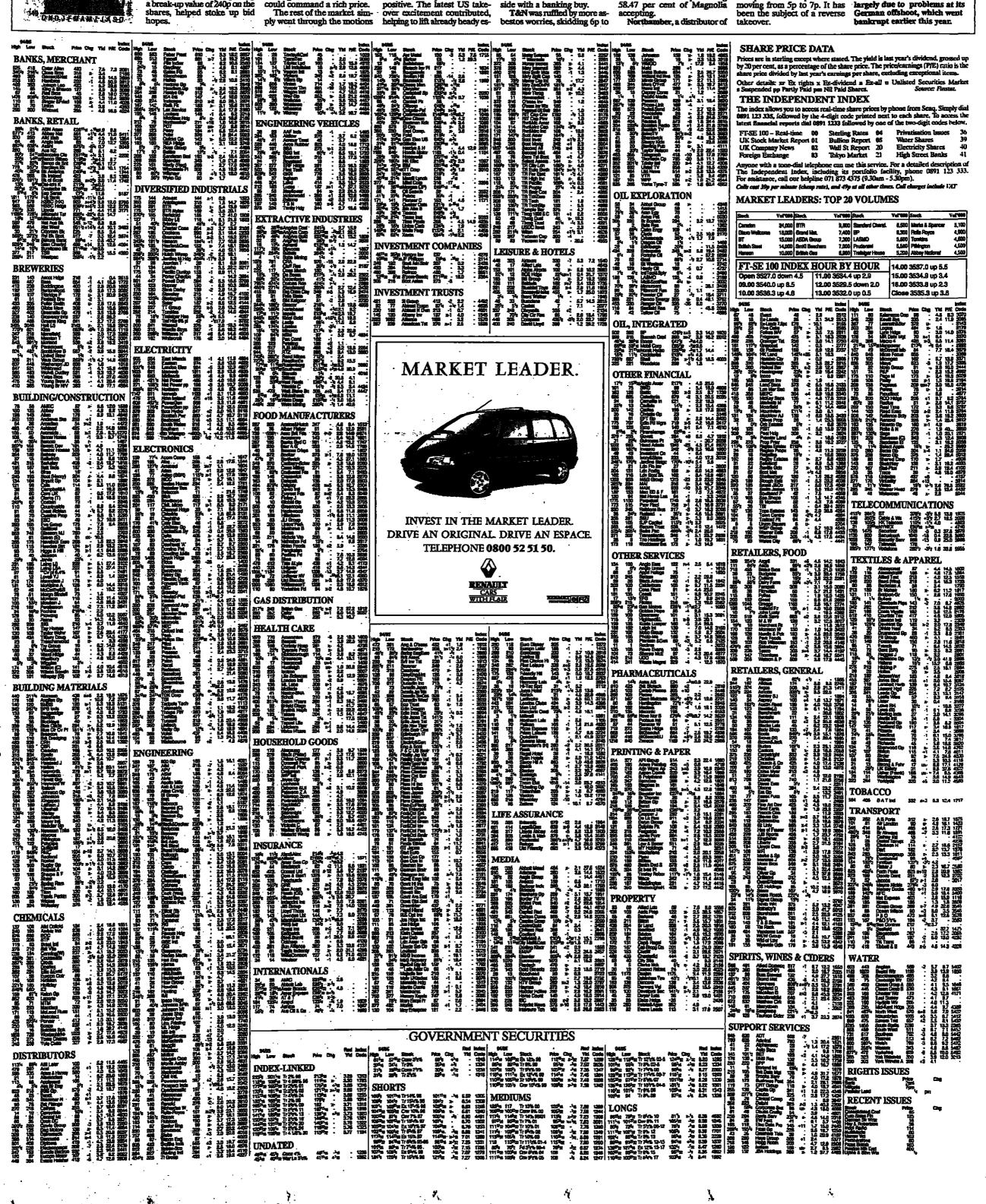
at 8.25p.
Millgate returned to market
at 19p with the nil-paid shares moving from 5p to 7p. It has

Plantation & General, formerly called Chillington Corporation, edged forward 3p to 60p. Interim figures are due

tomorrow. They are expected to show a sharp advance on last time's £971,000. But the results could be accompanied by an announcement that the group has sold a 1,000hectare property in Indonesia for approaching £10m, Most likely buyer is the Indonesian

government. P&G has been reshaping; earlier this year it floated its Langdon Foods

The signalled takeover bid for Casket, the deeply trou-bled cycle maker, should soon materialise. The offer, from another quoted company, is likely to be around last night's 7p close. The group suffered losses of £12.3m, largely due to problems at its German offshoot, which went



# unit trusts/data

Stands   See   See   Vis   Vis   See   V	Sort 1 month   Smooth   Spot   1 month   3 month   Spot
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Description   Control	Separation   1   Sepa
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Section   1.5	827-80 868-87 10429 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000
Project   Proj	phd S1452 770.1 - \$10.6 Profested & Managed \$2 860.6 914.0 Managed 413.4 455.1

\* Bad b Halling

Carla raises Cecil's hopes for Classics

2.00

Marin Paris

3

# Bad blood over Halling drug use

antine here this morning with their Breeders' Cup elixirs established: Halling will run on Lasix, Lake Coniston on car-

Berg RAIL

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A. 194

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SAN SAN TANK LA

The former's reliance on the drug for the first time in his racing career at Belmont Park on Saturday will upset the tradi-tionalist back in Blighty. But the harsh realists of New York believe the colt needs medication and a substantial head start if he is to make a race of the Classic with Cigar.

The thought that Cigar's uninterrupted sequence of 11 victories is about to be terminated is not even a speck in the collective mind of the locals. If pushed to look beyond a winner they suggest Peaks And Valleys will beat Halling for the

runner's-up vacancy. Given its venal reputation, it is something of a surprise that New York took until last month to open itself up pharmaceutically in line with the rest of racing America. As Cigar has had more pms in him that a porcupine (he runs on both Lasix and Bute), the men behind Halling insist their horse must do the same if he is to compete with

any great significance. Simon Crisford, the racing manager of Godolphin, Halling's owners, admitted yesterday that the chestnut needed Lasix for more than a morale

Carla raises

Cecil's hopes

for Classics

A record-breaking performance by Henry Cecil's filly Lady Car-

la at Leicester yesterday put her

into contention for Classic suc-

cess next year. She runs in the

colours of Wafic Said, who also

owns the Cecil-trained Bosra

Sham, favourite for next year's

Lady Carla was having in her

first race yesterday, but stretched clear in the closing

stages of the Hoby Maiden

Stakes to win by four lengths from General Macarthur in 1

min 34.5sec, nearly one and a

half seconds faster than the pre-

over a mile at Leicester. Fast

groung and a strong tailwind

certainly helped.

speed filly."

1000 Guineas.

Britain's horses will clear quaron the move to bolster Britain's main hope in the quest for the Breeders' Cup Classic

> has burst blood vessels in previous races. The maxim Godolphin are using is that when in Rome do as the Romans do.

But back in Britain, where the drug is banned, the mood seems to be that two wrongs do not make a right. David Pipe, the Jockey Club spokesman, said

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Fantasy Racing (Yarmouth, 2.00) NB: Waders Dream (Yarmouth, 3.10)

yesterday: "If trainers feel they must use medication in the United States there is little we can do about it. If they think it helps them achieve a level play-ing field that is their decision, but the United States stands alone in their use of these

If ethics can be tipped into a skip, however, (and the Breed-ers' Cup prize fund tends to provide a stirrup in this matter) the statistics show Lasix works. Last year the first six in the Classic had each been rubbed with a swab before competition and the pattern in New York since medication was brought in has

injection for his supporters. He been of improved performance. Horses seem to achieve a new level on the drug, particularly after the early administration.

Halling will need this hoist, especially as his team now seem uncertain that he will adapt to the dirt surface. It was thought that Dubai's all-weather champion would cross over with simplicity to the Belmont track, but that opinion has changed slightly on inspection of a course that was so badly flooded on Saturday that racing had to be abandoned. Halling is generally a 5-2 chance, with Cigar on 4-6.

Much of the early informa-tion at the Breeders' Cup is disseminated in great Letter To Brezhnev style through the latticed fence of the quarantined compound. Geoff Lewis entered the quarters yesterday with the information that his Lake Coniston would be the beneficiary of another drug, the anti-inflammatory substance Bute, in the Sprint. "He's had a long, 15-hour journey and he might be a bit stiff so you have to take all the advan-

swan song and Lewis has not yet dared think about the gap he tages," the trainer said. Lewis, though, seemed to place more emphasis on the will leave at his Epsom yard. Certainly, Lewis seems to invest contents of the carrier bag he more emotion in his horses than some British trainers, who had filled at a Garden City su-

permarket that morning. Inside

was Lake Coniston's favourite

Saturday provides the colt's

feed, a bunch of carrots.



appeared to describe them as a

mechanic might his monkey

wrench in a documentary last

horses bought his passage out

of an early career as a bell boy.

"Without them I would proba-

bly be head doorman at a ho-

Lewis has not forgotten that

#### Sanders sways Rival

Amanda Sanders was highly El Bailador by three quarters of praised after riding Rival Bid to a length. victory at Leicester yesterday. The 23-year-old apprentice brought Norma Macauley's

At the same track, Alan Daly,

the apprentice partner of runner-up Edan Heights, was gelding with a well-judged chalhanded a two-day suspension lenge to beat Richard Hills on for improper riding.

can wan a race of this sort, although he has not been out since being well-besten on the all-weather at Wolverhampton in early September. Berge's Southwell win back in March followed a break of almost four months, so he could go well even though he lacks a recent occurs. Berge has won on fast ground on turf, but he is better on the all-weather and will do well to cope with Spencer's Reverge and Nasheat on these terms. That also applies to the likes of Our Shadee and Tornal, who have been running well recently.

# 3.45 RANWORTH MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,500 added 2YO 1m Penalty Value £4,628

....A Mackay 11 ......W Woods 4 2 JRUSH (Lis) Aleman & Maldoum) H Thom 0 ROSSEL (USA) (27) Shelin Mohemmed) M 0 SOLDIER MAK (42) (J A Lond A Hide 9 D ... ed M Seuse 9 0 US SOLUTION BALL (42) (I A Low) A Hide 9 0.

SLITTOR (12) (Lord Howard de Welden) W Janus 9 0.

AETHER (USA) (Hesmonds Stud) Lady Hernes 8 9.

C CAPSTONE (7) (Lord Howard de Welden) W Janus 8 9.

C DOUBLE UP (28) (Lory Hernes) Lady Hernes 8 9.

STRODICHE (16) (B7) (George Standorder) I Souther 8 9.

STRODICHE SOLIO (28) 6( P Foods Group Rading Perinters) P Mischell 8 9.

STRODICE (USA) (Mrs Virgina Kinft Payard) Lorder 8 9.

—12 declared — \_W Ryen 2

BETENC: 9-4 introducing, 3-1 Bright Water, 4-1 St Adele, 9-2 Jyush, 10-1 Rossel, 12-1 Active, 25-1994: Tradey 2 9 0 J Quinn 10-1 (J E Banks) 15ran

instone won a division of the maiden here last week and Lady Carla obliged at Lerminestanday, so the chances are that their stablemate, BRIGHT WATER, can also will satisfie may be sking and continue Henry Ceca's excellent run in the process. B. ... " Na-

at Leicester. He was not given a hard race once Don Micheletto and Winter Romance, count with the benefit of a race or two) had his measure. The Leicester founth, Ashar, went on to win easily at Lingfield on Monday and Peace Envoy won this last year for the same connections efter being beaten in his previous race. Newcomers to consider include Rayal Canasica and Mismigud. Royal Canasica and Mismigud. Royal Canasica as trained by David Loder, whose juveniles have a hebit of winning first time out, elthough Mewjud is also from a yard that who is share of maldens with a newcomer. Mismigut might have the edge, as Tom Jones' two witners here last week took his Yarmouth total to 11 for the season. Mismoo Hail Satual is a half-brother to Weldness, placed in Group races as a two-year-old after winning a malden for Ben Hambury back in 1988. ter is a titl protect to lendy, whose three jovense were for intend adollism, remity C.14 and Pat Edday in 1992 Included the Group One Grand Criterium at Longshamp. Ce0? 441 sixe some idee of what is needed to beat liquids because he also trains Forest Buck, who had a couple of lengths to spare over form Jones's runner at Leicester. With the benefix, or that run and his stable gatting its share of winners, Jiyush looks the denger. Although Rosnel should improve for his run in the Newmarket matter won by Astor Place, pick of tile others could be introducing, runner-up to Bright Water's well-regarded stablemate, Pricident, at Sandown (1m) on her debut.

#### 4.15 CALIFORNIA HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,000 added 7f Penal-ty Value £3,915

| 085503 | HICKORY BLUE (8) (Ms. Christine Golfin) Mis. N. Marculey 5 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_. S. Dromee (8) 13 | 103035 | SPANISH STREPTER (USA) (76) (flory Sectrol) M. Chapman 4 9 12 \_\_\_\_\_. C. Manday (7) 2 | 01.6511, MOVE WITH EDES (112) (CD) (W. Ede & Co Panneshoy W Tumer 3 9 9 \_\_\_. A. Edday (7) 1 | 6510-40 | LABUDO (USA) (15) (SP) (Pour Issac) R. Ingens 5 9 7 \_\_\_\_. R. Hills 7 | 030205 | MORROCCO (REG. (7) (7) (Alban Myecs) M. Chrenton 6 9 6 \_\_\_\_. R. Neghos 11 | 0.06000 | MCRUN'S FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. W Ryen 6 | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. W Ryen 6 | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. R. Michael 11 | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. R. Michael 11 | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. R. Michael 11 | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. R. Michael (16) | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. Fernand W. Javes 3 9 2 \_\_\_\_. R. Michael (16) | MSCON MCREARYS FAMICY (16) (Alba R B. MCREARYS FAM OOGOOD MERCHINS FAMET (18) JOHN K IS KENTRAIN W JAMES 3 9 2.

(OO402 DARCEY BUSSELL (7) (W ) George S Thompson D Arbustron: 10 8 13.

ASDEGO AMANY (7) (D) (R ) Thomas D Wilson 5 8 9.

356002 NO SPEECINES (RE) (T) (R IM Cyent C Cyent 4 8 9.

245000 AROUR (27) (Als C E Bussen C Bertan 3 8 6.

034045 MERRIEE LE BOW (S) (R20 Nightspot) Pot Mitchell 3 8 3.

000-50 RMITERS GEB. (42) (Als Karole Vann) M Ryan 3 7 8. - 13 doctored -BETTING: 7-2 Morocco, 4-1 Dercey Bossell, 6-1 No Speeches, 8-1 Aktivy, Merrie Le Bow, 10-1 High-

ry Blue, Love Lagend, 12-1 others. 984: Ertion 4 10 0 M Roberts 9-1 (C E Britain) 20cm

FORM GUIDE

DARCEY BUSSELL was with Barry Hills when second to Neuwest in a mile marden on similar fast ground here a week ago but she magin be good enough on her first stan for her new stable after that improved performance on fast ground similar to today's. Roger lingarm won the selling handcap at the last meeting with Total Rach and Labudd can be given enother chance on the strength of his fourth to Swinging Sodies at Goodwood, his first run for the yard. Merrie Le Bow was fifth in the 21-tunner Doncaster race won by Missier Charter last Foday and wall find this esser but, at the other and of the handcap, Heldony Blue has a bit to prove as far as staying this distance is concerned, so he will be pushed to give away the weight. Morrocco and old Love Legical are running well enough, while Ablay is only 1b higher than he was when bearing 18 others over this trip at Saksbury in May and Michael Roberts is an encouraging choice of inder.

#### YARMOUTH. HYPERION

2.00 Fantasy Racing 2.35 Balladur

3.45 Introducing GOING: Firm. STALLS: Far side. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f to 1 m.

Left-hand course, level and fair.

Resecourse is north of town on A149. Bus link from Yarmouth railway station (served by London, Liverpool Street, via Norwich), which is 1 mile away. ADMISSION: Club \$12; Tanzersalls \$8.50; Family and course enclosure \$4.50. CAR PARE: \$1.

■ LEADING TRANSERS WITH EUNNERS: H Coeff = 25 winners from 97 runners gives a success ratio of 25.2% and a loss to a level stake of 225.8%; M Stoutz = 22 wins, 109 runners gives a success ratio of 25.2% and a loss to a level stake of 225.8%; M Stoutz = 22 wins, 109 runners and run. 119 90. 12 Theatmann Jones = 21 wins, 89 rides, 23.6%, +138.16; J Gouden =

■ LEADING THAINEAS WITH EUNERSIST H COSH - 28 wines from 97 tumors gives a success ratio of 25.2% and a loss to a level stake of 525.8% M Stoote - 22 wins, 109 rm-oles, 20.2%, 4.12.89; H Thomson Jones - 21 wins, 89 rides, 23.6%, +5.38.16; J Gooden - 20 wins, 91 rides, 22.6%, 4.9.06.
■ LEADING JOCKEYS: M Roberts - 37 wins, 199 rides, 18.6%, +178.29; R Wills - 32 wins, 153 rides, 20.9%, +5.27.93; L Dettord - 23 wins, 151 rides, 18.5%, 4.40.11; M Hills - 26 wins, 151 rides, 17.2%, +40.07. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Zeno Phys. (3.10).
WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Speaces's Revenge (3.10) won at Yaumouth on Wedne

day. LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS; Move With Edge (4.15) was sent 255 miles by W G M Turn-er from Conton Denham, Somerset; Gagatinis (1.25) was sent 242 miles by P D Ewass from

1.25 St 43yds Penalty Value £3,655
1 21035 LITTLE NORSING (REC) (13) (D) (M E Half C Dwyer 9 7
2 140106 64643UU (12) (D) (R F F Mason) P Beins 9 6 G Hand 4
3 0243 TIME FOR TEA (IRE) (6) (R M Cyen) C Cyen 95
4 242501 DANDE FIXER (9) (D) (Decision Displaction Ltd) D Arbushnot 8 1D (7ex)
5 COU GOVERNORS DREAM (20) (P W Sterndors) Max N Macaulay 7 126 Bardwell 2
- 5 declared -

BETTRIE: 5-2 Time For Tea. 11-4 Dande Fiyer, 3-1 Little Noggist, 7-2 Gagaldu, 8-1 Gos 1994: Therwa 2 7 3 M Baird 5-1 (N A Callagran) 11stn FORM GUIDE ETTLE NOGGENS was third to two fast-improving nursery horses – Lunar Mist and Skynford Ryer – over this trip at Newmarket two races ago, and she would surely have finished doser to Lunar Mist at Newmarket for fast time but for being drawn one and racing up the stands side. Judged on those performances, Little Noggins can be fancied to give away the weight but Gaginjuliu, well suited by five furiongs on fast ground, can make a race of it. She has been on the go since April but her sixth of 12 behind Swynfourd Pyer at Catanock and time suggests she is holding her form pretty well. Dender Pyer cames a 7th penalty for winning a melden auction at Folhestone last week but he is obviously in good shape and is 5th better off for the neck that Gaghylub best him at Brighton in August. Time For Tea stays at furlongs but could have the piece to win at this trip after making most of the running when thard to odds-on Missile in a melden at Ponterhart. Governors Dream has not shown much but mistig do better now she is viscored and cames a low weight in a nursery.

out might do better now she is visored and carries a low weight in a nursery.

2.00 CORTON CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 6f Penalty Value £5,108 

STATUTE T.A Residen Rose, 11-4 Separate, 7-2 First Voll. 4-1 Factory Recipe, 12-1 Monicols. 1994: Needle Sun 4 9 2 M Roberts 8-13 (C E Bri FORM BUIDE

3.10 NEWPORT CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,650 added 7f Penalty Value £3,099

mark when completing her hat-trick in the summer and five of Fantasy Racing's six wins have been in claiming races. Since he best 20 others at Newmarket in May, Sessedo has rarely run poorly in competitive handiceps and this rup will suit han better then the five furiongs he has tackled in his last two races at Newmarket. First Vell must put behind her a poor showing at Heydock last time, but she had run well in big fields of landicappers beforehand and is not out of it, getting weight from the top three. Moviped's neck second to Little florr in a huge field at Nothingam last Thursday was in a 0-65 race and he is up against it at these weights. Selection: SASSEDO

2.35 EBF HERRINGFLEET MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £6,000

DOH (USA) Meldoum Al Mathum) E Durlop 9 0 D (Handson Al Maldoum) H Thomson Jones 9 0 HALL BUTAL (USA) (Shelih Almed Al Meldoum) M Stoute 9 0 CAMASKA (Mrs. Arm M Salon) D Loder 9 0

Histories Lady's promising fifth of 17 behind St Sta at Warwick boxs even better in the light of St Stle's success in a Listed race at Newbury on Saturday (the Warwick second, Hisala, also won next time) but whether Medieval Lady can improve enough to best the cots is another matter. With Henry Cediffs horses, particularly the two-year-olds, going so well at present, BALLADUR is worth another chance after felling to justify thewards in this time up a latinuted. It is not not clean a herd sate when Pure Market but Minter Romance Botth

added 2YO 7f Penalty Value £4,932

MERICO PRO MINISTA (Mrs. June M. Sabon) D Loors or or Distinct BEAUTY (Mrs.) (N. S. Yong W. O'Bornen 8.9 MEDIENAL LADY (22) (Jernard Williamson) Lady Henies 8.9.

PERRE JULIETTE (25) (Abdula N. Honis) W. Jarre 8.9.

10 declared —

3 BALLADUR (USA) (US) (RF) (K Abdulle) H Ceci 9 0... EXTREMELY FRIENDLY (W J Gredley C British 9 0 ... 80 TOO MOOR (RRE) (Left Goodman) & Bravery 9 0 ...

BETUNE: 7-4 Bellader, 5-2 Royal Cassetta, 4-1 Monoo Hal Batal, 6-1 Ma 14-1 Extremely Pricestly, 16-1 others. 1994: Peace Ensy 2-9 0 Pat Eddery 1-2 (H R A Cecil) 13xen

DETIMO: 3-1 Spencer's Revenge, 9-2 Mashant, 6-1 Berge, Our Shadee, 7-1 Samsolom, 12-1 Tomal, Waders Drasm, 14-1 others. 1994: Blowedisinow 4 9 6 J Quinn 7-1 (J Wharton) 10 an

FORM GUIDE

Nashaut won a 20-runner selling handlasp under 10 stone at Leicester a couple of weeks ago and, with John Stack on board once more, he gets a total of 17th from SPENCER'S REVENCE. In the circumstances, Mick Ryan's runner looks as though he will have to be better then ever to lead his fourth successive race but Spencer's Revenge is back in a cleamer after coming with a strong late run to win an 18-runner handlasp over this seven furiongs last Wedneaday, when Samadolosi (3th sures off) was five and a half lengths away sooth. Emily-Mick has won three times since her Newmarket success over a mile back on June 23, so the fact that Action Jackson got to within half a length of her that day suggests he

#### Pat Eddery, who rode her yesterday, said: "I know Mr Cecil likes her a lot and I think she could be an Oaks filly next year, whereas Bosra Sham is a

RACING RESULTS

LEICESTER 1.45:1. THORDIS (Carley) 7-1; 2. Blue Suede Hoofs 14-1; 3. Mindrase 50-1. 19 ran, 10-1.1 fav Dermond Beach, 1/s, six-hd. (P. Maidn.). Tota: £7-50; £2-10, £2-50, £6.80, Dual Forcoast: £78.70, CSF: £91.37.

56.60. Duel Forecest: £78.70. CSF: £91.37. This: £213.20. Non Runner: Polish Lady.
2.15: 1. TONYS 6EFT (Dene O'Neil) 2-1. fex; 2. Dr. Caffgeri 16-1; 3. Burnet Siennen 14-1. 20 ren. 2, ½. (R Harmon). Totes £2.30; £1.20. £2.40. £4.80. DF: £11.50. CSF: £32.48. This: £51.90.
2.45: 1. 1.ADY CARIA. (Pat Eddery) 5-2; 2. General Maccenthur 16-1; 3. Tawedick 25-1. 12 ptn. 9-4 few Hayesin. 4, 3½. (H Cedi). Totes £3.40; £1.50. £6.00. £9.00. DF: £66.90. CSF: £41.36. This: £192.40. Non Runner: Chaunetin.

£66.90. CSF: £41.36. Trio: £192.40. Non Rurrier: Chauselin.
3.15: 1. SECRET ALY (B Doyle) 10-1; 2. Zeiko 11-4 fev; 3. Star Mananger 14-1. 13 ran, Ind, 11/a, (C Britsen). Tota: £15.30; £5.20, £1.70; £4.50. DF: £23.50. CSF: £37,64. Tricest: £363.92. Trio: £81.90.
3.48: 1. LOWELY LYCA (R Hale) 5-1; 2. Edam Heilghts 2-1 fev; 3. Dumber 11-2. 9 ran.
1/a, 4. (J Hile). Tota: £6.10; £1.70, £1.40, £1.40. DF: £7.70. CSF: £14.58, Tno: £78.10.

£1.40. DF: £7.70. CSF: £14.56, Tno: £28.10.

4.15: 1. RIVAL 880 (Amende Sendem) 6-1; 2. El Ballader 5-1; 3. Duckling 16-1. 14 van. 9-2 fav Thurnes Side. 44, nk. (Mrs M Macautay). Totae £5.00; £2.50, £1.60. £8.30. DF: £27.00. CSF: £37.18. Thosas: £432.87. Tric: £388.50. MR: Braydon Forest, Dia Georgy, Hawkish; Pistol. Rock the Barney, Mackapot: £66.489.10 (£60.907.87 to Yarmouth today). Placespot: £2,862.30. Quadipot: not won (£285.88 to Yarmouth); Place 6: £388.87. Place 5: £55.90.

REDCAR
1.30: 1. MISTER JOEL (5 Meloney) 9-2;
2. Time To Tengio 7-4 fey; 3. Corniche Quanti51. 11 ran, hd, 1-4, (4) W Easterby. Tota:
65.10: £1.90, £1.80, £1.40, DP. £7.90, CSP.

55.10; £1.90, £1.80, £1.40, DP: £7.90, CSP. £13.05. Tric: £15.10.
2.00: 1. Times OF Times (C Rutier) 81; 2. Times To Fly 20-1; 3. Beas River 9-4 tow; 4. Sandblester 8-1. 20 rm. 3, sth.-bd. (M Ryan). Total: 58.70; £2.50, £5.70, £1.30, £2.00, DP: £78.70, CSP. £161.49. Titless: £454.15. Tric: £257.50.
2.30: 1. SHABANAZ (C Rutier) 6-5 fow; 2. Hunez Story 9-1; 3. Goodbye Melle 4-1. 13 rm. 1¼, 4, (M Muin). Total: £2.00; £1.30, £2.30, £1.20, DP: £16.60, CSP: £12.92. Titles.

19.40. 3.00: 1. ANOTHER TIME (W Woods) 7-2 2.00: 1. ANOTHER TIME (W WOODS) 7-2 co fee; 2. Despitis 12-1; 3. Ocean Park 7-2 co fee; 2. Despitis 12-1; 3. Ocean Park 7-2 co fee; 9 fee; 7-2 co fee; 9 fee; 7-2 co fee; 7-2

£4.384\_18. Trio: £544.30. Placepoit: £12.70. Quadpoit: £8.50. Place 8: £13.61. Place 5: £9.17.

RACELÎNE FULL RESULTS SERVICE 0891-168-168 Y'MOUTH |101 |201 |301 CHELT'HAM 102 202 307 FONTWELL 103 203 303 IRISH 120 220 320

#### FORTWELL HYPERION 35 Cobb Gate 2.10 Columcilie 2.45 by Edith 3.20 Shirley's Train 3.55 Handsome Ned 4.25 Little Chink

GOING: Good to firm.

Lish-hand hurdle course; figure-of-eight chase course. Tight chrout, not suitable for long-striding houses.

Recoccurse is south of village at junction of A29 and A27. Barnham railway studion (Brighton - Portsmouth line) is 2 miles away.

ADMISSION: Chib 5122 Junior (Tibo) (12 to 15-year-olds) 52, mider 12s tree; Tattersalls 58 (acrompanied under-16s free); Silver Ring 54. CAR PARK: Picnic area, 54 plus 54 (or each occupant; remainted free.) COING: Good to firm-

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Stableford Laby (2.45) won at Breford on Thursday, Bures (2.45) won at Fakerham on Priday. LONG-DESTANCE EUNINERS: Syringtime Affair (1.35) has been sent by 160 miles by Mrs N Macsaley from Spronton, Leles. 1.35 ANNUAL MEMBERS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 added 2m 2f

rs, Springtion Affair, 12-1 others.

2.10 RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD NOVICES' CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m 2f 110yds 2496/2P- CMPSIZE (338) A Moore 9 11 0 .. 

SETTING: 5-2 Colonialite, 3-1 Capains, 4-1 by Senor, 9-2 Queen's formed, 8-1 Capity Player, 8-1 Fettinoine.

WITHE INDEPENDENT

Horse Racing

Results 9839 - 111 171

Commentary 0839 - 111 175

James Demokratik Salamon, der Sild Addressen der geselle dang den Afres en gelt den den

2.45 STREBEL RADIATORS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m 2f

- 5 decimed -SETIDOS: 7-4 Bures, 21-4 by Edith, 4-1 Stapleford Lady, 9-2 Tel E Thou

3.20 DEREK WIGAN MEMORIAL NOVICES' H'CAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 2f 4-23112 SMRLEPS TRAIN (20) P Hobbs 6 12 0. Peter Hobbs 44-0113 COME ON BANCER (50) (60) (60) J White 7 11 8. P McLoughlin (2)

- 7 declared -BETTHR: 5-2 Shirley's Train, 11-4 Comm On Dancer, 3-1 Rayman, 7-1

3.55 YEUVE CLICQUOT AMATEUR RIDERS' HCAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 3f FZSP-14 RMMROW CASTLE (11) (CD) J Gallard 8 12 0. July P O'Nordie (7) 

- 8 declared -BETTING: 9-4 Zajica, 3-1 Rainhow Castle, 4-1 Time Facegia, Hand Ned, 8-1 Upward Sorgia, 12-1 Mirage Dancer, 14-1 others.

4.25 MIDDLETON MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,800 added 2m 6f 

- 7 declared BETTENG: 8-4 Elasive Star, 5-2 The Reprohete, 3-1 Clash of Cychole, 91 Little Chinic, Raincheck, 12-1 Vancouver Leti, 33-1 My Scoke Are Bost.

year and I promised them a

**Another in time for Woods** Another Time, strongly sup- won the Teleprompter Limited ported to win at Redcar yes-terday, took Newmarket trainer staff have worked hard this

of the season. The three-year-old, one of three co-favourites.

slap-up breakfast if we got the 20 up, "Woods said later.

Sean Woods to his 20th success

1.15 MONICASMAN (nap) 1.45 Bowl Of Oats (nb) 2.20 Same Difference 2.55 Mine's An Ace 3.30 Multy 4.05 Storm Falcon 4.35 Gemini Mist

GOING: Good to Firm.

Left-hand, galloping course with stiff fences, Uphill run-in of

CHELTENHAM

240yd.

Electroscope is 1m north of town off A435, Bus link from Cheltenham reflway station (served by Bristol, Birmingham and London, Paddington) which is 2m away. ADMISSION: Club & Tattersalis \$12 (juniors, 16-24 years, \$81; Foster's Enclosure \$5. CAR PARE: Free. SIS! All races

WONNESS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Royal Expression (3.30) has been sont 223 miles by Mrs M Reveley from Lingdiste, Cleveland; Genstal Miss (4.35) has been sent 158 miles by Mrs Morys Datfield from Ax-1.15 ADLESTROP NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m 110yds

10 OP- WOODE WONDER (RES) (187) M Baddstock 5 11 2 \_\_P Rolley
11 542 EQUINALITY (221) A Javas 6 10 11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ D Bridgenter
12 OS-OPS VENON OF LIGHT (18) H Diser 5 10 11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ inequi Oliver

= 12 declared =
BETTING: 5-2 Monicessmen, 3-1 Lady Pets, 4-1 Singaby, 11-2 Diviner, 8-1 Stor Of Deald, 10-1 Equinity, 12-1 Whispering Court, 20-1 others. 1.45 VFB HOLIDAYS AMATEURS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m 1f

110vds OSPPF-P MAN OF MYSTERY (6) (D) N Tweath-Dance 9 11 11 ... 34343P JOHN ROGER (12) H Manner 9 10 0 Mr A Charles-Iones (7)
PPFLEP ANSTEY GADABOUT (217) D Sasset 9 10 0 Mr A Holdoworth (7)

- 9 declared -All hims Weight 10st. True hardings wights: A CS Denote & Green Wask 9st
11th. Parcent's Way 9st 8th, Foughere 9st 5th, Fight Zied 8st 9th, John Roger
8st 8th, Ansiny Gardshout 8st 4th.
8ETTINE: 7-4 KC 9th Brasson's Way, 12-4 Foughere, 16-1 others.

BETTINE: 7-4 Wilde Music, 11-4 Foughere Risk, 6-1 Genical Mist, 7-1 Charter
Lane, 10-1 Colourful Boy, 12-1 Covernors Blue, 12-1 20-1 others.

2.20 TIM EMANUEL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £5,000 added 2m 7f 110yds 1 F1121R- GREENHAL TARE AWAY (224) (CD) P Hobbs 7 12 0...

021J-11/2 TUG OF PEACE (18) (BF) G Balding 8 11 11, ...... B Factor (5) 

2.55 LLOYDS BOWMAKER HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2m 5f 425-723 MINES AN ACE (NZ) (11) (C) Mrs J Rentree-Baroca 8 100 ....

Minimum weight, 10st. True terroloop weights: loans & Mine's An Ace 9st 13th. BETTING: 5-4 Dore, 6-4 Wise Approach, 9-2 Mine's An Ace, 8-1 Iconss.

3.30 NEVILLE RUSSELL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 3YO 2m 110yds HEATHYARDS ROCK R Holinshead 10 12 \_\_\_\_M Martin (7) NOBLE BALLENGIA (USA) A Janes 10 7 \_\_\_\_\_ A Magains O RISK A MELLION (11) J. Jeniens 10 7 .....

-5 declared --5 declared -BETTENC: 6-4 limity, 13-6 Royal Expression, 6-1 Heatiyerts Rock, 7-1 Risk A Millor, 10-1 Noble Ballerina.

4.05 LYDNEY NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 110yds 413F-13 BERGONE (RSE) (11) (BF) X Barley 6 11, 12 \_\_\_\_R Dur 04412-1 MORSE RAIDER (13) (D) M Pipe 5 11 8 \_\_\_\_\_ D Bridgement 111-131 STORM FALCON (USA) (27) (50) S Meller 5 11 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 09-1132 SONEC STAR (RE) (19) D Nicholson 6 11 5.\_\_\_\_ A Magaine - 4 declared -BETTING: 15-8 Storm Falcon, 5-2 Bertane, 3-1 Noise Rakier, 9-2 Socie

4.35 BONUSPRINT NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (CLASS H) £2,000 added 2m 110yds

#### **Lewis** targets **Bruno** with writ

KEN JONES

In professional boxing the truth means different things to different people, which is why a High Court writ on behalf of Lennox Lewis was issued yesterday against Frank Bruno and the World Boxing Council. The truth as Lewis sees it is

that, having overcome Lionel

Butler in a final eliminator ear-

lier this year, he holds priority over Mike Tyson as official challenger for the WBC heavyweight title Bruno took recently from Oliver McCall, In Bruno's mind, the truth is that he would earn a great deal more from defending against Tyson, who was automatically ranked above Lewis by the

WBC after completing a threeyear prison sentence. As Tyson is expected to meet Bruce Seldon for the World Boxing Association championship in March next year beore challenging Bruno, the action instituted by Lewis and his associates comes as no surprise. Considering that Tyson's promoter, Don King, wields a great deal of influence with the WBC president, Jose Sulaiman, there

was no other route to follow. A big snag for Lewis is that his American promoters, the Duva organisation, Main Events and Sulaiman, are barely on speaking terms. Another is that the American cable network, Home Box Office, that has Lewis under contract is not excited by the idea of Bruno as his next opponent, even for the title. "When Lennox defended against Bruno it did not amount to a great deal over here," Abraham said a few week ago after Lewis stopped Tommy Morrison in Atlantic City.

Unquestionably, HBO would prefer Lewis to go in with Riddick Bowe, who is facing Evander Holyfield next week in Las Vegas but, for the time being at Lewis's agenda. "Ili box anybody," he said yesterday. "I definitely want to fight Bowe at some stage, but I want Bruno first."

Drew Docherty has yet to decide whether to resume his hoxwhich led to the death of James Murray in Glasgow on 15 October, his manager, Tommy Gilmour, said yesterday.

#### **Pakistan** fly in to **furore**

The Australian Cricket Board has dismissed the inquiry findings which cleared the Pakistan batsman, Salim Malik, of bribery charges levelled by three Australian Test players, as Pakistan's cricketers arrived in Sydney yesterday for a six-week tour.

Graham Halbish, the ACB chief executive officer, criticised the report for suggesting Shane Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh had invented their charges against Salim. "The Board stands behind its players and believes these statements are correct," he said in an official statement.

In Islamabad, the chairman of Pakistan's selection committee, Zafar Altaf, said the allegations that Salim offered the Australian players A\$200,000 (£100,000) to A\$400,000 to lose Test and one-day matches during Australia's tour of Pakistan last year should be laid to rest.

Pakistan's new captain, Wasim Akram, welcomed Salim's selection for the three-Test series and said the 17-man squad supported their former captain. Salim, who was selected after being cleared by the inquiry headed by a former Pakistan Supreme Court judge, was expected to arrive in Australia later in the week.

Roger Twose, the English-born Warwickshire batsman who opted to play for New Zealand, is set to make his Test debut today when the second match of the three-Test series against India gets under way.

> TODAY'S NUMBER

The value, in US cents, of a cheque that the boxing promoter Don King once refused to allow any of his employees to sign, according to a former accountant. Joseph Maffia is testifying against King, cur-rently on trial in New York for faking a contract in 1981.

# A new stadium for a new century

The competition to build a new national stadium by the year 2000, backed by £100m of Lottery money. reaches a climax this week. As

Mike Rowbottom reports, the choice is far from simple

The Holiday Inn at 1, King's Cross Road will L take on a previously unknown significance tomorrow and Friday as representatives from five British cities make their final pitch there to be the site for the proposed national stadium.

Their anxious presentations will be made to a steering group of sporting administrators who are due to deliver their final verdict on Tuesday - and with it will probably come more than £100m of National Lottery

The object sounds relatively simple. What is required, by the year 2000, is one 80,000-seat stadium capable of hosting major sporting events.

Discussions have apparently been smooth and civilised, but there is no disguising the complex and potentially divisive nature of the steering group's

A central element in the whole process is The London Factor. The Sports Council stresses that this is not an Olympic bid, but a quest for a world-class British venue. That venue, however, must be capable of hosting events such as the Olympics.

Birmingham and Manchester have discovered in the last decade just how elusive those five rings can be, mounting three unsuccessful bids between them. The message which came down from International Olympic Committee circles on each occasion was that if Britain wanted the Games they would have to be in London.

The attitude was graphically illustrated two years ago when Sheffield was due to host the World Cup in athletics. The president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, Primo Nebiolo, gave it to be understood that he had somewhere more metropolitan in mind. The event was switched to the capital.

of their wives for major shopping possibilities, is a potent factor. Infuriating as it is to those outside the capital, such perceptions have to be acknowledged.

It is a message which steering group member Peter Radford reiterated last month. The British Athletic Federation's executive chairman, normally the most cautious of men, spelt out the fact that senior LAAF members would favour London above all other venues to host government.

#### The five grounds in the race

#### THE DECISION MAKERS

WEMBLEY

Location: existing stadium. Seating: 80,000.

London.

Minuses: Location.

Other pluss

road and rall links being

Trump card: History and

Infrastructure in place.

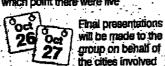
The national stadium steering group invited proposals in April against a set of agreed criteria: planning and location; transportation; ownership structure; management proposals; capital funding; financial viability.

Three agreed key goals: one stadium; 80,000 capacity; accommodating football, rugby and athletics and capable of hosting major events

Members: Rodney Walker: chairman, Sports Council. Derek Casey: chief executive, Sports Council. Sir John Quinton: chairman, Premier League. Rick Pany; chief executive, Premier League. Sir Bert Millichip: chairman, Football Association, Graham Kelly: chief executive, FA. Pat Smith: deputy chief executive, FA. Maurice Lindsay: chief executive, Rugby Football League. Gordon McKeag: president, Football League. David Dent: secretary, Football League. Professor Peter Radford: chief executive, British Athletic Federation

#### TIMETABLE

Closing date for entries was 14 July, at which point there were five



the cities involved Vote on location of the stadium will be taken and.

announced e for stadium Jan completion 2000 Deadline for stadium



BRADFORD

Proposer: National Superdome Foundation Trust Location: Odsal Stadium

mis card: Innovat stiding roof design would.

drive from Leeds/Bradford airport, direct spur off M62/M608. Full planning permission. Only asking 240m from Lottery funds. istional circles

LICENSES ENGINEERING CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY O

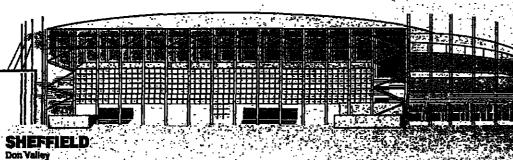


e stadium. North of Englan

Location: Eastlands. Seetting: 80.000 (with two options a 65,000) Cost: £134m.

Trump card: About to be med as hosts of the 2002 Commonwealth

es: Experienced campaigners after two falled Clympic bids. Arena and velodrome already is Minuses: Received impact of two Clympic fellures, Manchester United and City radeveloping their grounds.



Proposer: Sheffield City Council via Sheffield City Trust.
Location: Dop Valley stadium:
Seating: 50,000 (with possibility of increase to 80,000).
Cost: £85m (Alternative bid proposed involving separate stadium for field events. costing £28m, and upgrading Don Valley to 40,000 for athletics).

Trump card: Accessibility. 25,000 parking spaces within three kilometries, six major Minuses: Two-stadium variation goes outside steering group's criteria.

the 2002 World Championships, for which Britain will bid.

It seems clear that London cannot be without a major sport-ing facility. And for all the talk of Docklands sites and out-oftown locations near the M25, no The preference of the world's alternative to Wembley has prea lot from developers," a Sports Council spokesman said. "If there are any other bids out there, we haven't heard of

> Hilary Kirkham, of the Brent Regeneration Agency, estimates that any new bidder would have to spend £1.5 billion to match the infrastructure currently in place at Wembley - a sum which could be raised only by a direct grant from central

But the old Empire stadium, for all its unrivalled historical associations and mythical status, is not without problems. Parking space may be ample, but getting to it through the urban sprawl is

sporting grandees for somewhere sented itself. "There is a lot of currently being widened at a swimming pool; but Wembley glamorous, even the preference speculation in the media but not cost of £100m; and London maintains it is a thoroughly Transport is committed to rebuilding Wembley Park station at a cost of £32m if the site is chosen for the national stadium.

Despite these improvements, some critics believe that there simply is not enough room around Wembley to host a major, multi-sport event. There would be none of the compactness which Birmingham or Manchester were able to propose to the IOC.

There are also doubts voiced

about Wembley's plan to raise and lower the pitch hydraulically to enable those at the back of the stadium to see the athletics track, which will be revealed by removing the inner circle of seata taxing experience. ing. The exercise does bring to mind images of the Thunderbirds

> tested mechanism which is currently being used by oil rigs in the North Sea. The British Olympic Association has announced its intention to bid for the 2008 Olympics and, if Wembley gets the nod on Tuesday, it must

surely be the projected Olympic host. Thus Britain will be committed to bidding for an Olympics before being able to envisage how it would be

The BOA has asked for the 31 October deadline to be deferred, but the Sports Council has kept to it - and there are no indications that the steering group will fail to choose one of the five bidding cities.

"We have been studying the bids in detail since 14 July," a Sports Council spokesman said. "So far they have met all the criteria. There are no major flaws. They are five abreast and

coming towards us." Manchester's charge is given impetus by the fact that they are due to have their hosting of the 2002 Commonwealth Games rubber-stamped on 3 November. have you got to have all your The Sports Council is "absolutely committed to assisting them in providing a suitable stadium for that event. Both Manchester

Birmingham dispute the importance of the London factor, pointing out that recent major sporting events have been held outside capital cities - the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. successive world athletics championships in Stuttgart and

Gothenburg.

The rest of Europe seems to be able to cope very adequately with having more than one major stadium," Howard Bernin, the deputy chief executive of Manchester City Council, said. "No one is saying that London doesn't deserve a major sports facility. But why

eggs in one basket?" Bradford, who plan to build the kind of ambitious, roofed creation of the kind inhabited by the Toronto Blue Jays or Ajax are going to have a national

Amsterdam, also acknowledge the need for a big stadium in the south-east, but insist that a northern stadium is also required. They are only asking the National Lottery for £40m out of the required total of £200m.

Garside, the John spokesman, says Bradford is "at the crossroads of the country," equidistant between Edinburgh

and London. Location is also a key issue for Birmingham, who propose to build a stadium just the other side of the M42 from the National Exhibition Centre. "We are very easy to get to from every part of the country," Alan Wenban Smith, an assistant director with Birmingham

City Council, said. "If you

stadium, there is a lot to be said for having it in the middle of the country

Sheffield also claim a central geographical role - "situated in the centre of the country" - and have offered a possible late variation on extending the Don Valley stadium which currently holds 25,000 people, proposing an additional 80,000-seater stadium-alongside to host foot-

ball and rugby matches. Whatever the group's decision, however, the rejected parties need not trudge away without hope.

"We do not rule out a future for other projects which do not achieve the national stadium bid," the Sports Council spokesman said. "There is Lottery money for other things

# Boardman decides to leaves pursuers behind

to defend the Olympic track title that lifted him from cyclist to celebrity in 1992.

After ending an injury-wrecked season with an unexpected victory over Graeme Obree, the world pursuit champion, in Paris on Monday, he said that he would not contest Britain's only place in the 4,000 metres in Atlanta. "It's disappointing for me but

that is life. It would not be fair of me to challenge when we have someone capable of winning Olympic gold," Board-man said after beating Obree in a pursuit challenge ruined by the Scot breaking his special

"I did not particularly want to race against Graeme with his current form but my team boss wanted me to do the best I could. I don't like being cannon fodder but then I was very lucky. I was presented with an third day, breaking his ankle and opportunity and grabbed it with a wrist. Gone were his plans for

Olympic gold is on Chris Boardman's 1996 racing agenda but he has surrendered the chance a celebrity three years ago and is now planning a new route to Olympic gold

> both hands when Graeme had to ride an unfamiliar bike." Now Boardman's aims are for

an even harder Olympic title, the road time trial. "Winning it will be against the best. It's going to be harder than the pursuit, particularly with riders such as Miguel Indurain and Abraham Olano about "I was the world time trial

champion last year but Indurain is the best time triallist in the world. The Olympics are something special," Boardman said. "But the Tour de France is everything,

He has provided a startling open to the last two Tours. In his 1993 debut he took the yellow jersey of race leader when he won the opening time trial in Lille, beating Indurain. This July he crashed on the

more yellow jersey time, and also the chance to defend his two world titles.

Boardman started his comeback three months after the accident with a win in a time trial within pedalling distance of his Mersevside home, and ended his three-week return with another at the Bercy indoor track

Next year is already mapped out for Boardman, with an opening campaign that includes classics such as the Milan to San There are two major Belgian

races Boardman feels are in his range in that first phase: the Fleche Walloon and the Liège to Bastogne and back classic. After a five-week break from racing he starts his Tour build-up. "I have fewer races in my season than anyone else in my team but I have to come up with the results.



Since the accident I have missed success and being fit. Racing, I don't miss. It's hard and it hurts. Now I have a lot of work ahead of me this winter to be ready in time."

with the thought that: "the Tour is not exactly the right prepa-ration for the Olympic pursuit." That takes place five days after the Tour finishes - but he still has designs on a pursuit

"As far as furthering my career, pursuit racing doesn't mean much for business or as far as the rest of the world is concerned. I like it, though," Boardman said. He intends to challenge Obree for the world pursuit title when the track championships are staged in

Manchester next August.

#### One thousand and counting for Edberg

Tenn<del>is</del>

Stefan Edberg became only the fourth player to clock up 1,000 top-class matches when he beat the Italian, Renzo Furian, 6-36-1 to reach the second round of the Essen Open in Germany yesterday. The former Wimbledon champion joined Ivan Lendl, Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe as the only players to have reached the milestone.

Edberg said he would treato come. "It's a milestone. As you get older, these things get more important. It will mean a lot in 15 to 20 years from now." He has a long way to go to catch Lendl, who tops the list with 1,310 matches ahead of Connors (1,180) and McEnroe (1,033). Edberg's 1,001st match is against Pete Sampras.

Although the Swede has now slipped to 23rd in the rankings. he has no plans to retire yet. "Not many players get to the 1,000th match. I'm glad I won it. I want to keep going as long as I feel I am playing good tennis."

#### **Wales unveil their** latest Quinnell model

**Rugby Union** STEVE BALE

Craig Quinnell will follow not only in father's footsteps but those of brother and uncle as well when he makes his debut for Wales against Fiji at Cardiff Arms Park on 11 November. The 20-year-old Llanelli flanker, 6ft 6in and 184/st, is the latest to gain the benefit of the Welsh selectors' policy of extreme youth, his inclusion in the

> Craig's father Derek, now a selector, won 23 caps in the Seventies and brother Scott, capped in 1993 when 21, played nine times before turning proessional with Wigan a year ago when the teenaged Craig was a fifth-choice club second row.

side named yesterday among

four changes from those who

The boys are also nephews of Barry John, the all-time great Wales stand-off of Derek's earlier years, and there is yet another brother on the way through. Gavin, aged 11, is already 5ft 9in tall. Craig is keen to establish his

personal credentials rather than rely on reputations established by his father and elder brother, though it is a source of regret that Scott and Craig, despite the closeness of their ages, never played a match together after

the age of eight.
"We're not the same type of person or player and I want to think about what I can give the Welsh team when I'm there and not what they gave when they were there," he said yesterday. Quinnell for Andrew Gibbs

on the blind side, the 21-yearold Andrew Moore - capped as a replacement in Johannesburg-for Greg Prosser at lock, Wayne Proctor for Simon Hill on the wing and Nigel Davies from outside the squad to replace Gareth Jones at centre are the changes.
Ieuan Evans will beat John

Williams's 55-cap Welsh record when he appears against Fiji, mention of the illustrious JPR being a reminder of disquiet with

levels. JPR, now a selector, made clear his derogatory view of Neil Jenkins' outside-half play at the weekend. There is also contention over

the omission of Gareth Llewellyn, particularly with two other challengers, Prosser and Paul Arnold, being injured. Llewellyn is widely believed to be paying the penalty for upsetting Alex Evans, the then coach, off the field during the World Cup, something that is officially de-

SCINCHINIS Library 1.1. November): I mied.
WILES (v Fill, Cardiff, 1.1. November): I Thomas, (Fridgerd), N Davies, W Proctor (Librall): N Jenklas (Gronyodd), A Hoore (Cardif): C Londer (Swensee), J Housphreys (Cardif, Capt), J Davies (Meath), A Moore (Swensee), D Jones (Cardif), C Quinted (Librall), H Taylor, M Bennett (Cardif), Replacements: S Hill (Cardiff), C Williams (Swensee), R Howley (Bridgerd), L Massice (Cardif), G Jenklas (Walliams (Neath), G Jenklas

Harlequins will stage three rugby league games next month. The London Broncos will play at The Stoop, starting on 1 November against St Helens. The other fixtures are against Halifax on 15 November and Warrington four days later.

#### Football Little Colonia COCA-COLA CUP THIRD ROUND

reatry v Tottenham (7.45)
staf Pelace v Middlesbrough (7.45)
rby v Leeds Util (7.45)
scpool v Manchester Chy (7.45) ford City (7.45) Queen's Park Rangers v York (7.45)
Southerpton v West Horn.
Stoke v Newcastle (7.45)
Welves v Charlton (7.45) SCOTTISM COCA-COLA CUP SEMA-PRAL

#### TODAY'S FIXTURES

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Promier Divisions Newport AFC v Dorchester Town; Salesbury v Gloudster Cay, Midland Divisions Solinul Ber

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE FEDERALIDAN BREWIEHT NORTHEISTN LEAGUE CLIP Second round; BRANGEN FEDERUN; Con-sett v Cotangton CS; Durham City v Houder; Gus-borough v Nauron: Peterbe u Chester Le-Street; Shotton Commisses v Norton; Warchisem v Seatham Red Scir; Whitby v Prudhoe; Walang-neu u Bilhoritam Touris. GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Division: End-

REREWARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE CUP Second round: Bourne v Cotangogra, INTERLINK EXPRESS MEDIAND ALLIANCE LEAGUE CUP Second round: Stratord v Pér-EWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Promier Divinion

MORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pro-ident's Cap second round: Astifield v Mait-by: Blid-orth v Huckraft: Brigg v Winterton; Imminghen v Hell Road Rangers. PRESS AND JOURNAL HORMAND LEAGUE: Destromely + Dign Cny; Hoth v Cove Rangers; Loss-mouth v Buctor Instite; Rothes v Praser-burth.

#### Iperach v Luten (at Bury Town); Wasterd v Chebee (2.0). Second Division League Cup: Bath Cay v Bournemouth (at Reynsham Town); Barning BUTT City & Che

ds (7.30).

SNOOKER: Shoda Grand Prix (Sondi

#### eigh League First Div

#### WEEKEND FIXTURES AND POOLS FORECAST Second Division 17 Blackpool v Oxford Us 18 Bournemouth v Cartisl

Third Division

29 Cardill v Colcheste

# 

#### Bell's Scottish League 41 Celtic v Aberdeen . 42 Fallork v Hearts.

35 Leyton Onest v Wagen ... 36 Marsfield v Bury ... 37 Northampton v Barnet ... 38 Rochdale v Cambridge U

**First Division** 49 Dundee Utd v Dun

#### Second Division 51 Ayr v East Fre.

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COCA-COLA CUP:

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# sport

COCA-COLA CUP: Barnsley out-gunned by the professionals while last season's finalists fail to advance at home

# Arsenal put wet blanket on upstarts

**GUY HODGSON** 

Arsenal may be shedding the flinty image of George Gra-ham's latter days, but it does not mean they cannot be hardfaced when they want to be. Last night they did a thoroughly professional job on First Division Barnsley to remove them from the Coca-Cola Cup.

Wiping away the home team's pretty football like so much unnecessary froth, they half by Steve Bould and Dennis Bergkamp. On a damp night the final wet blanket was thrown on an upset by Martin Keown's header 15 minutes from time.

There is a theory among people who rarely frequent Oakwell that Barnsley are unable to hold a football match without a storm breaking out above them. Last night duly conformed to that prejudice, the wind and rain lashing down in a manner worthy of Wuthering

In short it was foul and equally brief was the Arsenal pitch inspection. The players took to the field bedecked in the club blazers and ties, and stayed all of 30 seconds before retreating hastily to the dressing-room, no doubt deciding to play with the elements first if they could work out which way that was.

Under the circumstances good football was unlikely and in the first 30 minutes Arsenal adhered to that faithfully. Barely two passes were strung together by the Premiership team and they must have been staggered to reach the interval two

For 37 minutes the visiting threat had amounted to one through ball by Dennis Bergkamp that was picked off lan Wright's toes by Barnsley's England Under-21 goalkeeper,

Alex Ferguson, when he was

manager of Aberdeen, main-

tained that if the Dons were to

win honours they had to trav-

el to Glasgow and beat Rangers

or Celeic - or both. At Hamp-den last night Billy Dodds scored wice for Aberdeen to

secure for them a Coca-Cola

Cap final place, and with their opponents coming from tonight's all-First Division tie

etween Airdrie and Dundee

chances are Aberdeen will

in their first trophy in five

Dodds' two goals came in the

Rangers defence was in a sham-

bolic shape, and although Oleg Salenko pulled a goal back for

Rangers

Aberdeen

are past masters at making the most of morsels and in the closing minutes of the light half they struck like vipers.

The first goal came from a free-kick 25 yards out that was passed short from Glenn Helder to Bergkamp, who hit the ball low towards the far corner. Watson saved stiperbly to his left but the ball popped from his grasp and Bould tapped in

After 41 minutes it was 2-0 and again Bergkamp's shooting proved decisive. Steve Davis, the Barnsley centre-back, allowed the ball to bounce off him and won this third-round match the Dutch striker pounced. Seewith two goals late in the first ing no colleague in a more promising position, he swung his left foot and beat Watson from 20 yards.

It was cruel for Barnsley who had begun the match playing like the sun was shining and the air was still. Their short passing was a joy and if they had shown the same accuracy nearer the goal they could have gone in at half-time with parity at least. David Seaman saved at his near post from Andy Liddell after six minutes and his posts were shaved by a header from Andy Payton eight minutes later.

Arsenal have the most parsimonious defence in the Premiership, having conceded only five goals. Although attacking their back four had been like banging your head on a rock, Barnsley tried, firing in long range shots from Payton and Owen Archdeacon in the 55th and 56th minutes that tested Seaman's agility.

Despite this, the feeling was growing that Barnsley's defrance was an act of futility, and that impression was endorsed when after 76 minutes Andy Liddell blazed a penalty over the bar.

a memorable victory.

Rangers, without Richard

Gough, who had joined an

ever-growing injury list, served

notice of intent within seconds

of the start, with Gordon Durie

kicking off down the left before

crossing for Ally McCoist, whose low shot snaked wide of

the far post.
That confident booster be-

hind them, Rangers set about

dominating the opening period

with Paul Gascoigne, in partic-

ular, displaying his skills in an

ed that he was playing the best

football of his career and while

the trademark runs with the ball

perched on his toe were evident,

so too was a willingness to scrap

include others in the game with

short accurate passes.

Earlier in the day he had stat-

Barmeley (5-3-2): Wesson; Eaden, Davis (Ram-mel, 66), Bishop, Moses, Archdeacon; Bullock, Shexion, Rediesm; Payton, Liddel, Sebedikaha not used: Rammel, Jackson, Buder (gt). Arsenet (4-4-2): Seeman, Dison, Adems, Bould, Winterburn; Merson, Keben, Jensen (Hughes,



Sheer concentration: Alan Shearer holds off David Holdsworth, of Watford, during Blackburn's 2-1 victory at Vicarage Road Photograph: Peter Jay

# Little in way of relief for Bolton

**DERICK ALLSOP** 

**Bolton Wanderers** Leicester City

A season is a long time in football and Bolton Wanderers, Coca-Cola Cup finalists last spring, are confronting the prospect of an autumn exit this time to compound their anxieties in the league after last night's goalless draw.

Bolton have long relished the role of underdog in Cup competition and it seemed just like old times as they snapped at the heels of normally more assured opponents. They have, after all, been a Premiership

exorcise the ghosts of Turin fol-

Aberdeen, however, gradu-

ally eased their way into a game

which was well short of the stan-

dard these two clubs have pro-

duced in cup ties in the past.
Having started the second

half in more purposeful mood.

Aberdeen were rewarded for

their change in attitude six min-

ntes after the re-start when

Dodds put them ahead. The goal owed much to a scintillat-

ing run by Eoin Jess who re-leased Dodds inside the

Rangers' penalty area and,

when his first effort rebounded

off a defender, the Aberdeen

striker retained his composure

shoot low past Andy Goram.

Glass curled a shot narrowly

to stride on to the loose ball and

Three minutes later Stephen

Rangers doubled up by Dodds

Rangers with five minutes remaining Aberdeen hung on for nents in their efforts to further

in peril of an immediate return to the First Division.

Current form would suggest they would, on the way, pass Leicester, who top the Endsleigh League and arrived at Burnden Park undefeated away from home.

That record came under instant threat from a Bolton side released from the intimidating environment of the top people's league. They assaulted Leicester's defence in the manner that carried them to Wembley last season and denied Leicester the time to settle into their pre-

ferred rhythm. Twice in the early minutes Richard Sneekes appeared in shooting positions, testing

for him, was cleared by the de-

inch perfect for the diminutive

striker, who had eluded his

marker and scored with a pow-

chink of light with five minutes

remaining when Salenko shot powerfully past the goalkeeper

and his nearside post from 18

Rangers (3-4-3): Goram; Moore (Durrant, 60), Brown, Petric; Cleland (Mikhallichanko, 80), McLaren, Gascoigne, Wight; McCost, Salenko, Duria. Substitutis and used: Murray.

Durie, Substitutes and teach «Murry. Abendeen (4-4-2): Welt; Garnt, Inglis, Smith, McNmrie; Miller (Hatherston, 84), Bernard, Jess, Glass; Booth, Dodds, Substitutes noy issed: Sheart, Snelders (gh). Referee: H Deliza (Mothervell).

Coca-Cola Cup third round

Simple of 2 Moore 85
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Simple of 2 Moore 85
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Anto Windscreens Shield

Gregen og 33 Appleby 82 Moulden 55, 73, 74 1,055

Scottish Cocs-Cola Cup

Rangers (0) \_\_\_\_\_\_1 Aberdeer (0) . Salenico 85 Dodds 51, 69 26,131 (at Hampden Park, Glasgow)

**GNI Vauxhall Conference** 

3 (Gibbs 67, Lamb 82, Blewden 90)
CSS LEAGUE Pression Divisions: Hachen 0 St Albans 0: Sutton Ust 4 Harow Borough 0.
LEAGUE OF WALES League Cap first round:
Connain's Quey Normads 4 Holyard 4; Rhyd 1 Fint
O; Llensandhaid 1 Newtons 3.
PONTINS LEAGUE Second Division: Monchaster City 0 Manafield 0.
ANON INSUBANCE COMBINATION First Divisions Bristol City 0 Southempton 1; Pottsmouth
1 Swindon 1; Queen's Park Renges 2 Mishwall
1 (at Herrow Borough); West Ham 1 Amenal 1.
Second Division League Cap: Pyrnouth Angle
6 Torquey Utd 2.

Semi-final

6 Torquey Util 2.

Northern first round
Rechale (2) \_\_\_\_\_5 Deritation (1) \_\_\_\_2
Whitehall 7 Oleson 8

Rangers gave themselves a

erful downward header.

shot and then pushing the ball wide. Mark Patterson made good use of a slippery surface, neatly side-stepping his would-be marker and shooting just too a header.

Mixu Paatelainen evidently had too much time to consider his options from Alan Thompson's nod-on and ultimately contrived to miss the target by some distance. Thompson, too, wasted an opportunity, failing to complete the necessary spin and delivery.

Garry Parker attempted to coax Leicester off the back foot but it was the more muscular contribution of Iwan Roberts which represented the most serious danger to Bolton

excellent intervention and then he struck the foot of a post with

Bolton regenerated their momentum after the break and again Sneekes pushed himself to the front of the firing squad. Alas for the home team, his direction was still awry.

Bolton were nearly caught on the break again but David Lowe's miscue spared them acute embarrassment. Lowe turned provider for the advancing Mick Whitiow, who forced a lunging save from Bra-

Parker's influence opened more avenues for Leicester and the slightest deflection was

defied by Stephen McAnespie's when it seemed his raking shot was goalbound.

Alan Stubbs relieved the ressure, striding forward from his post in front of the back four, to shoot powerfully from 30 yards but straight at Kevin Poole.

David Lee, the substitute, brought with him fresh hope, seeing a lobbed shot drift just shot was turned over.

Leicaster City (5-3-1-1): Poole; Grayson Carey, Rolling, Hill, Whitiow; Taylor, Parker Biske; Lowe; Roberts. Substituties not used

wide and then creating the confusion from which Sneekes'

Bolton Wanderers (4-1-3-2): Branagan; McAnesple, Fairclough, Bergsson, Philips; Stutios; Sneekes, Patienson (Lee, 63), Thomp-son; McGanley, Passésinen (De Freitas, 86). Substitute not used: Devison (gl.).

#### Pressure on Final reckoning rests on Duffy's decision

The Dundee player-manager, Jim Duffy, faces a dilemma over his own position for the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final with Airdrie at McDiarmid Park tonight. The 36-year-old, who has recovered from a serious knee injury, is to decide this morning whether to pick himself.

Dundee are attempting to reach their first final since meeting neighbours Dundee United in the same competition 15 years ago and Duffy, who played in Saturday's 1-1 draw with Clydebank, said: "I am not sure how I would handle two games in the space of a few days, but at the same time I know there is going to be a lot of pressure out there - and I know I could handle that."

Duffy proved his nerve by stepping forward to score in the penalty shoot-out as Dundee overcame Hearts after their 4-4 quarter-final draw.

As well as deciding on his own place in the side. Duffy faces an anxious wait for weekend casualties Morten Wieghorst and Neil Duffy, the manager's nephew, who both picked up knocks against Clydebank. Homeless Airdrie, currently

ground-sharing with Clyde in Cumbernauld, go into their fifth semi-final in five years with their English striker Steve Cooper admitting Scotland's nomads may have cured his itchy feet. The 31-year-old has been with a string of clubs in a chequered career but admits 12 months with the Diamonds have left him believing he might for once stay put. "I feel really settled here and so are the family," said Cooper, signed from York City a year ago. Airdrie have a full squad to

choose from, with Kenny Black (calf) and Paul Jack (thigh strain) the only slight doubts.

#### Cooks prove best of the rest

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

reports from Gigg Lane, Bury ireland Cook Islands

The tiny Cook Islands became the best of the rest in the world of rugby league, overcoming brave Irish resistance to win the Halifax Emerging Nations World Cup last night.

Although the South Pacific

side were always the more mobile and fluent, it was only in the last seven minutes that two tries guaranteed them victory. Despite a torrential down-

pour that threatened to turn them into submerging nations, the two finalists showed why they had reached this stage of a gratifyingly successful com-petition by moving the ball ambitiously from the start.

It was the Irish who made the breakthrough, however, the Is-landers' allowing Martin Crompton's kick to bounce and eventually fall for the right-winger, Phelim Comerford. The Cooks, with their scrum-

half, Ali Davys, setting up play cleverly, got into any number of promising positions, but the combination of the difficult handling conditions and some stern Irish defence kept them out.
In the 24th minute, the

Cooks made their pressure tell. Davys' pass sending Alex Kermode over. The Islanders took the lead with a disputed try 10 minutes later, Craig Bowen chipping over the defence and kicking ahead again for Sonny Shepherd to score from an apparently offside position. The damage was compounded by Meti Noovau's first goal.

After looking on the point of cracking again in the early stage of the second half, Ireland clawed their way back into the game. Good close support play took them into the Cooks' 22 and a high tackle by Jason Temu on Richard Smyth yielded a penalty safely landed by Comerford.

It was Ireland's turn to press now, but the Cooks turned defence into attack, breaking out of their own half for their blood-bin substitute, Tangi Tangi Metua, to be tackled without the ball and for Noovao to re-

With the game understandably becoming messier, Ireland wast-ed their best chance when Phil Owens knocked on at another scrum near the line. The Cook Islands immediately made them pay, Bowen kicking through and winning the race to get the fingertip on the ball despite slipping and scrabbling the last few yards

on hands and knees. The Irish never bowed the knee, but in the last minute James Cuthers forced his way over and the Polynesian drums had the last word over the Irish pipes in the world music fusion. on the touchline in front of the 4,147 crowd.

4,147 CTOWCI.
COOK ISLANDE: Toe (Vigitingle-Mattwers):
Shepherd (Nigitangia-Mattwers): Paltai (Iupap-Marseringi), Tiene (Iupap-Marseringi), Tariu (Iupap-Marseringi), Tower (Iupap-Marseringi), Dower (Ilawarin), Days (Britanes); Huster (Nigitangia-Mattwers), Henry (Iupap-Marseringi), Noovae (Auckierin), Sabethutes Tiri (Iupap-Marseringi), Noovae (Auckierin), Sabethutes Tiri (Iupap-Marseringi); Noovae (Auckiering); Comerford (Dublin Blues); Richard Smith (Habitangiart (Dublin Blues); Melanagist (Sabethutes); Melanagist (Dublin Blues); Frich (Dudley Hill), Sabathates: O'Sallivan (Dublin Blues) for Stryth, S3; Cleary (Dublin Blues) for Graney, 64; Doyle (Dublin Blues) for Graney, 64;

#### Premier award goes to youth gold medallist

sally Cuthber, a 17-year-old ginghy sallor state in Stansted in Pasex, won the premier prize at the first RYAWING hautical Awards prescription in London assiming water Strart Alexandra This was Strart Alexandra This was strained for the third consecutive lane. In winning the Arcandra award for Endeaver the beat, among others, Time Clayton, the solo round the world yachtswoman.

round the world yachtswoman.
The Salability award went to Andy Cassell, of Cowes, and crew Tony Downs, of London, and Terry Willet, of Sheffield, for their gold medal perfor-mance in the World Disabled Sailing Championships. Cassell is expected to be named as skipper of the crew to represent Britain at the Paralympics in

Atlanta next year. Henri Strzelecki, who founded in Manchester the Henri Loyd sports clothing company.

Was given a lifetime achievement award by the former King Constantine of Greece. An environmental award sponsored by Perkins Engines was given to the Surfers Against Sewage campaign.

#### Sheffield outclassed again

Rangers appeared to be a over the bar but as Rangers

second half at a time when the in the middle of the field and to

Three weeks ago the European champions, Real Madrid, could beat Sheffield Sharks by only 10 points in the European Clubs' Championship, writes Duncan Hooper. It is a measure of Sheffield's struggles in recent weeks that the Belgian cham-pions, Sunair Ostend, found it far easier to wan 71-58 at Ponds Forge last night in the first leg of the third qualifying round of the European Cup.

Only Roger Huggins seemed to have shaken off the hangover following Sheffield's drubbings

at last weekend's McDonald's Championship. Ostend are hardly in the class of Real Madrid or Maccabi Tel Aviv. Sheffield's conquerors at the London Arena, but they are still

full-time professionals. Huggins scored 19 first half points as Sheffield trailed 38-28 at the interval after being hit by a 14-4 run in the last three minutes of the half. However, Huggins scored only two free throws in the second period as Ray Mitchell, Daniel Goethals and Ronny Bayer calmly built a commanding lead for next

#### McRae has title in his sights

Colin McRae is on course to become Britain's first world rally me," said McRae, who is eight champion after climbing to second place on the second day of the Catalonia Rally.

The Scot's main rival for the title, Juha Kankkunen, held a convincing lead in the race - having won eight of the first 15 stages
- until he crashed on the 16th special stage, and McRae can now pip him for the ultimate prize at the RAC Rally, the final race of the series, next month. In recent years, McRae and

his co-driver, Derek Ringer,

week's second leg.

#### have made the RAC Rally their "It's a superb opportunity for

seconds behind the race leader, Carlos Sainz If the positions remain unchanged today, McRae and his Subaru team-mate Sainz will lead the World Championship

on 70 points. Kankkunen, who had ex-tended his lead in the rally to almost a minute before crashing, has 62. The reigning champion, Didier Auriol, is now in third place, 44 seconds behind

10

#### sign TV deal A £118.5m five-year television

League to

sive their goalkeeper, Michael Watt, displayed his nerves when lowing Saturday's 4-1 victory he flapped at a corner in the over Hearts. he flapped at a corner in the olst minute which, thankfully deal was in the balance last night after the Football League said it could not meet the deadline for acceptance laid down by the Aberdeen scored their sec-Football Association. ond goal eight minutes later, again through Dodds. A cross from Glass from the left was The League president, Gordon McKeag, had asked for more time to consider the record

offer which would be worth £18.5m next season - an increase from the original £17m - and £25m a year for the following four years. Instead he was told by Lancaster Gate that he must give an answer by 4pm tomorrow. This poses a problem for the League's board of directors, who are also considering a TV deal with the Premier League.

First Division club chairmen are not scheduled to gather until a fortnight tomorrow at Leicester, and McKeag would like to delay a reply on the FA deal until after that meeting.

#### SPORTING DIGEST FOOTBALL RESULTS

American football

Badminton

Anders Nielsen, the English national champion, will pay his own way to try to qualify for next year's Olympics after having his ben, issued on Sunday, confirmed by the Badminton Association of England yesterday. Nielsen will receive no financial support from the association until after the end of January because he withdraw from the British Grand Stam tournament in Perth in September without a medical certificate.

#### Reskethell EUROPEAN CUP Third round first leg: Shaffield Sharks 58 Ostand (Bal) 71.

Boxing
The 23-year-old Glaswegan. Steve McLevy, stopped his opponent, Alan Peacock, in the sixth round at Glasgow's St Andrew's Sporting Club to collect the vecant Scottish Lightwelterweight title on Monday night. It was McLevy's seventh win in eight outings in the paid ranks and brought him his first bett since his amateur days. It was the first professional show in the city since the trage death of James Murray, the British bantam-800
FA CUP Fourth qualitying round replays: Colsyn Bay 3 (Donnely 15, 43, Roberts 44) Stalybridge Or Rushder and Demonds; 3 (Metrics 42, Collins 47, Wilson 67) Puriset 1 (Donners 45); Wisbech 2 (Messangham 25, Murrus 54) (Bitericary 6; Bromagione 2 (Claric 48, Stelling pen 67) Fetteoring 2 (Soots 52, Allod 55) (Soots et 69 orle); Barriley 2 (Louel 74, Sales 85) Newport low 3 (Fearon 5, Gea 85, Rushler 90); Marion 2 (Claric 13, McConstl 64, 70), Gearsteind and Northbest 3 (Gibts 67, Lamb 62, Bitwiden 90)

1835 (FEASUR # Wessarier Disklations Marchine 1, 5), 44

1835 (FEASUR # Wessarier Disklations Marchine 1, 5), 44

1835 (FEASUR # Wessarier Disklations Marchine 1, 5), 44

Boxing

of James Murray, the British barriam-weight title challenger, after his fight with Drew Dochery 1.1 days ago. PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (St Andrew's

Grahame Clinton, the Surrey coach, yes-terday parted company with the coun-ty by mutual consent. In 1982, his first season in charge, he mastermed their double of the Rapid Crickettine Second XI Championship and Bain Clarkson Tro-phy. But two subsequent seasons of un-fulfilled promise under Clinton and dissatisfaction at the way the club is being not left members angry and frus-trated. Terry Alderman, the former Australian pace bowler, is being linked

#### with the post alongside the former Sur-rey stalwert, indirhab Alam, and another Australian, Dave Glibert.

Football

# Queen's Park Rangers have signed Lee Sharp, an 18-year-old goalkeeper from non-league Lincoln United, on a two-year deal.

of the FA Cup first-round ties between York City and Notts County on Sunday, 12 November (Mck-off 4pm) and Wycombe Wanderers v Gillingham on Monday 13 November (Spm). MONINGY S LATE RESILETS: GBY Vaunded Conferences Structures 4 Welling 1, FA Unition Trophy first qualifying round second replays Blatton 2 Sutton Coldinal 1 (Blatton at Active to Lease-tradity). A Consider of Control of

Jose Maria Olazabal faces at least six more months of treatment to the foot problem that has plagued him all year and which keeps him out of this week's Volvo Masters in Spaln. Olazabal, who withdrew from Europe's Ryder Cup side and the Spanish Alfred Dunhill Cup team, has now set his sights on returning at the Teheljo Mesters in Japan next month.

James Duthle, the 1984 Ohmpic Bronze medallist and currently player-crach of Surbiton, has been appointed team coach with Dawid Whitaker as chief coach for Great Britain's build-up to the Ohmpic qualifier in Barcelona in beautiful the Coach coach in Regeling. January. Jon Copp, coach to Reading, has been named assistant.

#### Ice trockey MML: Montreel 6 Los Angeles 3; Colorado 3 Angelem 1.

#### Motorcycling

British motorcycling has announced its biggest ever promotional package, involving a new-look, musti-million-pound televised championiship. The new competition, to be screened by BBC TV's Grandstand programme, will comprise 20 rounds over 10 meetings. The overall winner will be classified as Britain's No 1 motorcaclist. No 1 motorevelist.

The Italian rider, Dorlano Romboni, has signed a two-year contract to ride for Apri-ia in the 500cc Grand Prix World Champarties will then decade whether he should remain in the top category or return to the 250cc championship.

CHALDMA RALLY (Lloret de Mar) Second day of throe-day event: 1. C Senz (Sp) Suberu Impress 3rr 45mm S 5 C Aurol (Fr) Toyos Ceiro +52; 4 P Usto III Suberu Impress +125; 5 T Aurol (Fr) Toyos Ceiro +52; 4 P Usto III Suberu Impress +125; 6 T Mainten (Fr) Masuboth Lancer +220; 8 F Delector Ifro Foot Excut -220; 7 Adjmit (2) Masuboth Lancer +23; 9 G Teirol, Uttal Toyota Ceiro +359; 9 O Cemer (Sp) Renault Clo \$207; 10 A Navarra (R) Toyota Ceiro +1152.

#### Sheffield Eagles yesterday signed Paul Dixon, the former Great Britain Test forward, from the Bradford Bulls for £20,000 in a two-and-a-half year deal. HALEAX EMERGENE NATIONS WORLD CUP Famatic Cook letends (10) 22, helmal (4) 6, 500 letends (10) 23, helmal (4) 6, 500 letends (10) 23, helmal fries Common Cortivos, hermode, Stophest, South Notes 3, trained Tries Common forth Seets Common (4) 1472

Rugby Union

# Nuggy Union Diccon Edwards, the Leicester centre, has joined Newport in a quest to further his international career. The 22-year-old, who has played one game for Wales A against Figure A earlier this year, has been told that, if he wants to progress to senior level, he needs to play Welsh club rugby. QUE MATCHER: Magnag 9 Kenig Hill C. Quind Ihm 9 Wests 6. Despendent Tradeger v Cross Keyer, Ebbw Vale v Moutpain Ash.

SKODA GRAND PRIX (Sussierland) Third round: FO'Brien (nr) bt.) Womene (Treil 5-3.

PRINCE BRITISH UNDER-14 AND UNDER-12 CHANN-CHESHIPS (Methym Cardon City): Boys Under 14 seen finance P Sanher (Essen) bt J Wilstrop (Yorkshind) 9-1 9-0 9-2; M Grehom (Durham and Cleveland) bt ID Genes (Wall 8-10 6-9 9-7 9-6 9-4. Finant: Berker bt Grehom 9-0 8-10 10-9 9-3. blanker 12 seen-finance A Patthers (Yorkshine) bt J Dodd (Alddinsed) 9-6 9-7; P Campbell (Scot) bt J Haycocks (Worcestowine) 9-1 9-6 7-9, 9-3. Finant-Flottiers bt Campbell 10-8, 9-0, 9-5. Girls Under-14 seen-finance J Durnall (Yorkshine) bt Lettch (Scot 9-1 9-5 9-3; A Heist (Lancashine) bt Z Rincholy (Yorkshine) 9-1 Durnall (Yorkshine) bt Lettch (Scot 9-1 9-5) 9-3; A Heist (Lancashine) bt Z Rincholy (Yorkshine) 9-2 9-4; P. Finant Cuncell in Helet 9-2 3-9 10-8 9-4. Under 12 sens-finance A Widdons (Medidescot) bt K Stephens (Northerdyntoshine) 9-9 9-9 9-3; Curgistwen Demoshine) bt LLengthom (Lancashine) 9-9.5.

Greg Rusedski starts as clear favourite for the men's prize in the Guardian Direct national trite in Telford next week. At No 43, he is 1,202 places above his At No 43, he is 1,202 places above his first opponent, 19-year-old Colin Bennett of Ross-on-Wye, in the world rankings. Rusedski is scheduled for a semi-final against Mark Parchey, who beet him in the Stella Arlos tournament. Jeremy Bates, chasing a seventh nabonal title and the fourth in succession, will be and the fourth in succession, will be a seventh match the serious before the serious before the serious before the serious serious serious and the serious serio title and the fourth in succession, will start against Nick Weel of Hampshire and is seeded to meet Tim Herman in the semi-finals. Brighton's Clare Wood, who regained the British No 1 ranking this year, will begin her quest for a third title against Banbury's Claire Taylor, while Lizzle Jelfs, the second seed, starts against Jane Wood of Enfield. MEN'S ATP CHALLENGER (Secol, S Ker) Sin gles first round (selected): T Henman (GB bt i Seric (Croe) 6-4 6-2.

bt I Seric (Cros) 6-4 6-2.

ESSEN OPEN (Ser) Mon's singles, first round:
M Samer (Gor) bt M Prolopoussis (Aust 3-6 6-4
6-3; B Staven (M2) bt A O'Brain (US) 7-6 6-3;
D Vacek (CR Rep) bt G Projet (Fr) 6-3 1-6 6-1;
S Edberg (Swe) bt R Fusion (R) 6-3 6-1, J Winnami, (Neth) bt P Haarhus (R) 6-3 6-1, J Winnami, (Neth) bt P Haarhus (Ger) 6-3 6-1; J Frans
(Arg) bt D Crogodor (Uzi) 6-2 6-2; M Woodfords (Aus) bt P Machrison (Rus) bt A Vollov (Rus)
6-4 2-8 6-1; B Bucker (Ger) bt M Gustafsson
(Swe) 7-6 6-4; M Weshingson (US) bt A Gaudenz (b) 7-5 4-8 6-3.

Football **GREG WOOD** 

Watford Blackburn Rovers

Ray Harford will claim that it is the result which matters, but although Blackburn Rovers advanced to the fourth round of ly deserved even a replay. To come from behind with two second-half goals may show character, but their problem is that

asked supporters still queuing outside the North Stand to tradge round to the south instead but at the time it might have been kinder to advice them to forget it and go home. By then, it was already apparent that the wind and rain, combined with a the Coca-Cola Cup here last complete absence of imagination night, their performance bare- on both sides, would make it a very long 90 minutes.

It was 19 minutes before either goal faced a serious threat

#### **Inter prepare fresh** offer for Cantona

Manchester United have resisted a further approach from sible swap for the former Old Trafford player Paul Ince, to tempt Eric Cantona to Italy.

Italian newspapers reported that Inter officials, who failed to lure the Frenchman during the close season, were preparing a £7m offer when the Italian transfer market reopens for a week on 2 November. Inter have also suggested an exchange deal with Ince, who left United last summer for £7m. United's chairman, Martin

Edwards, said Cantona was not for sale: "It is becoming a bit tedious having this constant spec-ulation involving Inter Milan." Manchester United have lost

Paul Parker, at least in the shortterm. The full-back, who missed most of last season following surgery on an ankie, has had a cartilage operation and will be out of action for six weeks.

Sheffield Wednesday yesterday sealed the signings of Darko Kovacevic and Dejan Stefanovic. Wednesday have agreed to pay Red Star Belgrade about £4m for the 21-year-olds, but the deal is subject to work permits being approved.

Pleat, who says he is turning to the foreign market because of he inflated prices being asked by British clubs, previously enquired about Juninho. The Brazilian, signed by Middlesbrough, does not yet know if he will make his Premiership debut at Manchester United on Saturday.

Robson, returning to Old Trafford for the first time since becoming Middlesbrough manAfter 10 minutes the Tannoy

ager over a year ago, will assess the situation when his £5m gning arrives in England. Jun-

> to land later this week. Manchester City have made their first indication of the player they want to help them off the bottom of the Premiership by asking Liverpool about Nigel Clough. "He is among a number of players who I feel could be an asset," City's manager,

inho, who received his work per-

mit last night but must wait for

international clearance, is due

John Still became the season's sixth managerial casualty when he resigned from Peterborough United in disgust at his treatment from fans. He had been at the club since May 1994. Peterborough lost 3-0 at Brentford on Saturday, which left his side 17th in the Second Division with three wins from 13 games.

Alan Ball, said.

Darren Ferguson has been put on the transfer list at Wolves at his own request. The son of Manchester United's manager Alex, was dropped for Saturday's draw with Watford. The midfielder, who left Old Traf-ford for Molineux last year, said: "As soon as I play a bad game, I'm out of the side."

Hull City, bottom of the Secday. Their chairman, Martin Fish, puts the club's chance of surviving the case at "50-50". Croatia's national coach Miroslav Blazevic, is being held in a French prison in connection

with a probe into the alleged use

of slush funds by Marseille. Blazevic coached Nantes between 1989 and 1991. Tapie appeal, page 12

there is no quality to go with keeper was forced into action. Tim Flowers dived to his left to gather Tommy Mooney's strike from outside the area.

When a supporter staged a ly before half-time, it seemed clear that he had seen enough and decided to find the quickest way to be thrown out. Unfortunately for him, two minutes later, Ian Pearce, previously untroubled at the heart of Blackburn's defence, suffered an astonishing lack of con-centration. Almost as if mistaking Kevin Phillips for Colin Hendry, Pearce rolled a slow, square ball across the edge of the box, and the only danger as Phillips advanced and carefully placed the ball past Flowers' right hand was that a fit of the giggles might

Watford re-emerged from the dressing-room, momentarily at least, a side transformed. In the 49th minute three excellent chances came and went. Flowers was at full stretch to palm over Keith Millen's header, and from the corner Jeff Kenna was well placed to clear the same player's shot off the line. Moments later, a downward header from Jamie Moralee was scrambled against

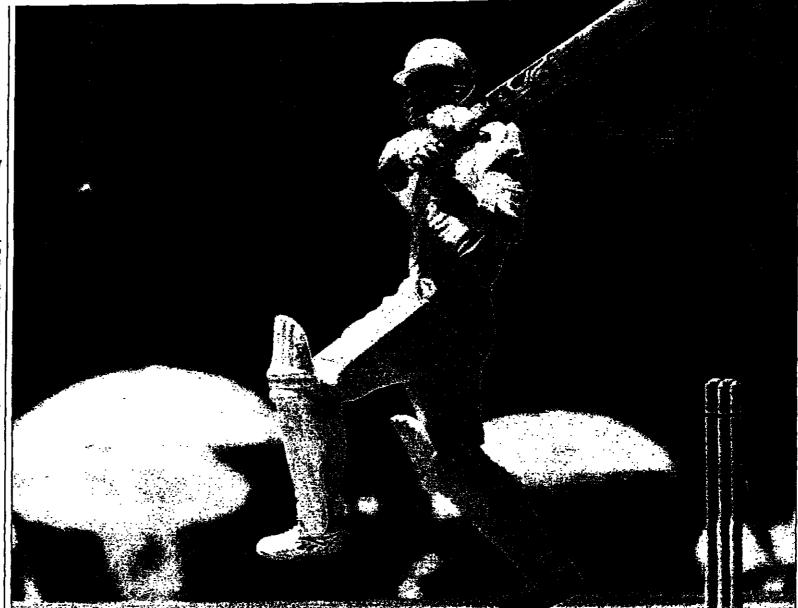
the post and away by Flowers. It was a sequence which the home side would soon regret. Ripley's cross-cum-shot against the bar - a trick he later repeated - was a belated sign of intent from the League champions, and after 59 minutes the winger's comer found its way off Hendry's head to Alan Shearer unmarked on the left corner of the area. His shot might just have missed the far post, but a ricochet off Darren Bazeley

made the argument academic. As the pattern returned to its previous tedium, Blackburn were now the more likely winners. A header from Newell brought a marvellous reflex save from Kevin Miller and as David Batty, following up, seemed certain to score, Miller was at his feet to deny him. But ond Division, face a winding up order, brought by the Inland Revenue, in the High Court tothen, after 79 minutes, Jeff gave Newell an easy header to secure the victory.

Watdord (4-4-2): Miller, Bazeley, Miller, Fou-ter, Holdsworth: Mooney, Ramage, Palmer, Lavnr; Moralee, Phillips. Substitutes not used: Page, Printer, Cherry (gl). Blackburn Rovers, (4-4-2): Flowers; Berg, Hendy, Pearce. Kerner; Sharwood, Batty, Warhurst, Ripley, Newell, Shearer. Substi-tutes not used: Holmes, Sutton, Mimms

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TOTAL MEDGEREE
A O TOTAL RAD R
RANGER HYPNOSIS

Photograph, page27



# England enjoy fun and farce

JAMES ALEXANDER reports from Randjesfontein England 242-4 dec NFO XI 130

England won by 112 runs

England won the opening match of their tour largely as they pleased yesterday and had some fun along the way. Nicky Oppenheimer's collection of has-beens and young thrusters under the captaincy of his son, Jonathan, was never going to provide problems for an international team - even England. The victory margin was

There will be many more demanding occasions ahead they could scarcely be less demanding - but it was a perfectly pleasant way for England to mark their first game in South Africa for 31 years. The sun-shine was flawless, the ground picturesque and the largesse agreeable. The proceeds from a crowd of around 1,000 went to the United Cricket Board of South Africa's development

programme and, in the spirit of batted, he was out for nought. unity, black and white children played happily together on the outfield during intervals.

Oppenheimer decided he wanted his own cricket ground, so he built one on his estate. Diamond billionaires can do that sort of thing. He has made a splendid job of it, too. The pavilion is marble-floored, and Ernie Els could practice his putting on the outfield.

The atmosphere was relaxed, the circumstances occasionally close to farcical. Herschelle Gibbs, one of the most highlyrated young batsmen in South Africa, was unable to field after slipping in the shower. When he

Later, Hugh Page, who had one season with Essex in the late 1980s, faced two balls before realising he was not wearing his contact lenses. When he returned, Page saw the ball well enough to clobber three sixes off Richard Illingworth.

Illingworth, though, collect-ed five wickets and he and Alec Stewart, playing his first match since July, will take most from the game. Illingworth's chances will be at a premium in a Test series sure to be dominated by quick bowling, but he is a vastly improved bowler over the past 12 months - and he will not rock as many boats as Philip Tufneil.

wants his namesake's sensible. character on tour rather than the volcanic presence of gree of credit for helping Dlingworth. Apparently, Raymond noticed a flaw in Richard's action and encouraged him to place his rear foot parallel to the bowing crease in delivery stride. "His action had become

slack because of all the one-day cricket," Raymond said, "and this allowed him to get more body into his action." A coin was not even required to decide England would bat and, before lunch, the hosts generosity extended beyond rigging the toss and ample helpings of smoked salmon and chardonnay. were both dropped twice - the

> rust and the potential carnage never materialised. Atherton missed a drive at Page and Stewart struggled desperately to discover his timing until the end.

ing was no better than decent

club standard. Yet England's

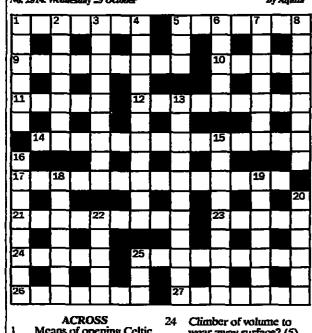
batting had an ample coating of

Ray Illingworth says he in his first innings since July. He gradually started to play sweet shots and the two and a half hours he spent in the middle be-Tidinell. He also claimed a de- fore retiring at lunch will do him

Mark Ramprakash was in better touch than any of the senior batsmen and one of the management's most fervent hopes is that his sublime talent 10 centuries last summer - can at last be translated into Test match runs. John Crawley and Robin Smith also looked like men in need of match practice, but at least there is more than three weeks until the first Test Jack Russell worked the ball around effectively in the late

Devon Malcoim and Darren Michael Atherton and Stewart Gough knew the slow pitch were both dropped twice - the would draw much of their sting chances ranging from dollies to and they eased themselves gen-difficult – and some of the bowling to reach full pace. It was left to Illingworth and Mike Watkinson to run through the batting. Some wickets were earned with gemine skill, others presented by wild slogs as

#### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- Means of opening Celtic barrow, perhaps (7) Pan is acceptable with
- foreign tag inside it (4-3) Sheds, for example, not allowed next to lines (9) Potplant (5) Century not recorded
- then he led India? (5) Fitting onto upper construction (9) Rattigan made such play of divorce statistics (8,6)
- canines, if icing-damaged 4 Thick woollen fabric, tightly bound together (5-4)

Worthless condition of

- Backing in the barrel, Diogenes was such a kizy 7
- wear away surface? (5) Issue No 1 of "The Lady", say? (9) One manipulates dis-
- placed organ, fitting between two pipes (7) Number of company join-ing mutinous ship (7)
- Best echoic version (6) ioned belief (7) Sleep and oxygen helping Idle talk of Georgia's contraction (3)
  Ill humour of Walton say,

without line? (5)

CPathladard by Newspaper Publishing PLC, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SOL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, S

church (7)

Unhurried response in

- Broadcast from Pluto, in-
- Main features of old-fash- 22 Weapon to backfire? (9) 25
- trinsically (8) Early short price I put out Foreign visa found in gar-ret of one's ancestor? (9)
  - See Parking device done with? (8) Observed, like one with varicella symptoms (7)
  - Sculptor's hole-in-one (7) Shoe with black heel (6) Set of values from the Channel Islands? (5) Douglas given up, right?

# **Edwards to miss final**

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

The England captain, Shaun Edwards, has suffered the worst blow of his career by being ruled out of the Halifax Centenary World Cup final at Wembley on Saturday The Wigan scrum-half re-

signed himself to missing the tournament decider yesterday when he had a recurrence of the knee infection that kept him out of the semi-final victory over Wales. "I feel very sorry for Shaun," said the England coach, Phil Larder. "I know how hard he has prepared for this competition and he has been a tremendous help to me in the

World Cup, going down with a stomach bug after England's opening match win over Australia and only making a brief

Edwards has had a miserable

gainst Fiji since. His infected knee is a legacy of the Australian match and a

Did not bate D Gough, M CRott, R Killings D E Malcolm.

bitterly disappointed Edwards has complained about the initial medical attention he received. The effect of his withdrawal is that Bobbic Goulding, out-standing against Wales in Edwards' absence, will definitely be

at scrum-half on Saturday. Larder had been hoping to keep Australia guessing about who would fill the role at Wembley. Now, with John Bentley and Daryl Powell unlikely to be fit to return, he is odds-on to name the same side that beat Wales. Jason Robinson and Andy Parrell are both expected to be fit. The Widnes referee, Stuart

Cummings, has been put in charge of the final. "It is the pinnacle of my career," said the 34-year-old. "We will try to achieve the conditions to

appearance as a substitute allow the players to display their

Both England and Australia are likely to be tolerably pleased with the choice. Playing under a referee of the same nationalexpected of them, but the Australian camp have also made complimentary noises about Cummings. They will certainly prefer him to Russell Smith, who penalised them heavily in their semi-final against New Zealand on Saturday and who was the subject of a post-match

The Australian coach, Bob Pulton, will name his final line-up today. Provided Rod Wishart has recovered from leg and head injuries, Fulton is unlike ly to deviate far from the side that beat the Kiwis in injury time, although David Gillespie could come into contention if his hamstring has recovered

#### Weight loss to be monitored

Boxers will not be able to fight shy of the scales in future if, as expected, a new weight-checking scheme is written into the itish Board of Control's rule

A new list of safety measures to be announced in the wake of James Murray's death after a title fight in Glasgow two weeks ago includes random weigh-ins in the weeks before title bouts to combat the effects of dehydration. The list will be part of a report from an independent working party, headed by a lead-ing neurologist, Peter Richards, which was set up after Bradley Stone's death 18 months ago."

Fighters will have to achieve

a poundage target, to be fixed

by the Board's doctors, in the week or fortnight before a maor contest, or the contest could be called off. The checks could happen at any time to any boxer. An across-the-board system would be very difficult to implement, but the surprise element should keep fighters to their prescribed mark.

Losing weight saps stamina and causes dehydration, a state which can make boxers more prone to serious injury. It was the major reason why the Board moved weigh-ins to 24 hours before the event. Late last year, the Board got tough with the now-retired Chris Eubank, who used to virtually cut out food and drink for a couple of days before fights to boil down to the 12st super-middleweight limit. The more sophisticated Mag-

netic Resonance Imaging brain scans - the cost of which pro-moter Frank Warren has offered to underwrite for every British boxer in the coming year - will be compulsory and is more advanced technology than the present CT scanning. The MRI scan provides a more in-depth search of the brain and a vital

preventative measure. The rest periods for fighters stopped by knock-out - presently 28 days - could be extended in future, and similar, temporary sidelining may even be ordered for boxers involved in hard contests, even though they may have gone the distance. Neither more time between rounds nor a reduction of rounds is expected to be part of the 1995 medical package.

Writ from Lewis, page 25

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